

Queen's Speech test for Tory leadership

Thatcher moves to fight off Heseltine threat

By NICHOLAS WOOD, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

THE prime minister and her most senior cabinet colleagues will this week lead a concerted effort to end mounting speculation about a challenge to her leadership and to reassure worried Tory backbenchers that the government has a European policy that can unite the party.

Margaret Thatcher will make what even her own supporters concede will be one of the most important speeches of her political career on Wednesday when she replies to Neil Kinnock, the Labour leader, at the beginning of five days of debate on the Queen's Speech.

It will come against the background of bleak weekend opinion polls showing the Labour lead stretching to between 14 and 21 points, renewed evidence of disquiet among her backbenchers about her leadership and the likelihood of a further attack of Tory jitters when the results of the Bradford North and Bute by-elections are digested on Friday.

Her efforts to heal the gaping wounds over Europe opened up by the resignation

of Sir Geoffrey Howe and Michael Heseltine's savage attack on her leadership will be supported by John Major, the chancellor, and Douglas Hurd, the foreign secretary. But with Sir Geoffrey expected to break his silence about the reasons behind his resignation by intervening in the foreign affairs section of the debate, the government could again be thrown onto the defensive.

Mrs Thatcher, who spent much of yesterday at Chequers preparing for one of the toughest weeks she has faced in a long time, was said by Downing Street sources to regard Mr Heseltine's "naked" bid for power with "disdain and contempt". She was reassured that the last time he had put his head above the parapet after the May local government elections, he had soon disappeared from sight because his alternatives to the poll tax had proved so thin. She also took heart from a NMR survey for the *Independent on Sunday* finding that three quarters of Tory MPs want her to stay.

However, supporters of Mr Heseltine were predicting that, barring a war in the Gulf, Mrs Thatcher would face a challenge when nominations closed on November 29. One remarked that the issue was "coming to a crunch" and that there was bound to be a contest, although it was impossible to be precise about the circumstances.

Although Sir Geoffrey has privately and publicly ruled out challenging Mrs Thatcher this autumn, the Heseltine camp believes that he might still be persuaded to change his mind and precipitate a contest, allowing their own champion to enter the lists. Sir Philip Goodhart, Conservative MP for Beckenham,

said on BBC Radio 4's *The World This Weekend*: "Plainly, Geoffrey Howe's resignation has totally changed the landscape within the party... There is going to be a leadership challenge sooner or later."

Sir Philip added that it had been clever of Mr Heseltine to make his move before leaving on a five-day official visit to the Middle East, but the prime minister's supporters accused him of cowardice in not staying to face the music.

Nevertheless, some senior right-wing Tory MPs admitted that while Mrs Thatcher's scepticism about greater European integration was echoed by the public, she was in deeper trouble than ever. With the election approaching, it was "survival time" for many Tory MPs in marginal seats.

In an interview with Brian Walden on London Weekend Television, Mr Hurd yesterday acknowledged the importance of the debate on the government's legislative programme for the new session of Parliament when he said that the cabinet would be able quickly to satisfy Mr Heseltine's warnings about a "crisis of confidence" in Mrs Thatcher's leadership.

The foreign secretary sought to soothe frayed Tory nerves by insisting that the cabinet was united over Europe and by confining his criticisms of Mr Heseltine to observing that his intervention was the "unwise" act of a "fractious" man. Unlike Sir Geoffrey, Mr Hurd said he was not worried by Mrs Thatcher's combative style, which often paid dividends in Europe when a softer tone did not.

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Staying in the political shade

From CHRISTOPHER WALKER IN AMMAN

THE travails of Britain's Conservative party were transferred to the sun-baked capital of Jordan as Michael Heseltine struggled to rise above the hurly-burly of party politics and play the role of international statesman.

Feigning surprise at the furore raised by his open letter to constituents released just as he was heading for a four-day private visit to Jordan and Israel, the former defence secretary brusquely dismissed claims by opposition politicians that it represented a challenge for the party leadership. "That is what they say about everything I do," he said.

Having ducked a flurry of calls from the BBC and probably aware of Bernard Ingham's gibe that on the eve of Guy Fawkes' night, he had characteristically lit the blue touchpaper and run, Mr Heseltine agreed to meet the press in the heavily-guarded surroundings of the British ambassador's residence.

He found that the correspondents — some of whom arrived in a yellow taxi plastered with a large poster of President Saddam — were more concerned with political matters thousands of miles away in London. How, the impeccably blue-suited and blue-tied Mr Heseltine was asked, did he respond to that

morning's accusation by Norman Tebbit that his letter criticising Mrs Thatcher's autocratic leadership style was both puerile and unwise? "I will not get drawn into answering that question," Mrs Thatcher's main rival for power replied. "I am dealing with the issues, but I do not think it is appropriate, particularly in view of the very important statement I have made today about the Gulf and the consequences for Jordan, to deal with what is essentially a domestic matter. I can take it up, if I need to when I get back to England on Wednesday."

Mr Heseltine, who had warned of the potentially drastic social and economic consequences for Jordan if it did not quickly receive aid from Europe and elsewhere to help it over the Gulf situation, became increasingly irritated as the questioners persisted. One reporter from a United States television network whispered loudly he had only come to look at Britain's future leader close up.

Earlier, Mr Heseltine, whose trip was first mooted in January, said there was now an urgent need to restore confidence in the Tory party after the resignation on Thursday of Sir Geoffrey Howe.

Matthew Parris, page 10



Evasive action: Michael Heseltine in Amman, trying not to answer leadership questions

British wives upset by calls to visit Iraq for Christmas

By MICHAEL KNIFE, DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

AT LEAST eight wives of British hostages held by Iraq received telephone calls from their husbands yesterday inviting them to spend Christmas with them in Iraq. The calls, which shocked and distressed some of the wives, were the first direct contact they had had since their husbands were seized by Iraqi troops to be detained at military and civil installations as human shields.

The calls came after an offer last week by the Iraqi authorities to allow the wives of what were described as "foreign guests" to spend Christmas with their husbands in Iraq. The Foreign Office, which denounced that offer, said yesterday that the calls were another cynical ploy by the Iraqi authorities, adding that the decision to allow the hostages to make them clearly reflected a distinct change of policy by President Saddam Hussein.

Members of the Gulf support group, which has been assisting the families of the hostages, said the telephone calls were obviously made under Iraqi pressure, which amounted to emotional blackmail.

One woman, who like the others declined to be named for fear of causing additional problems for her husband, said: "The phone call came at 9.30 in the morning. I was amazed to hear my husband's voice. It was the first time we

had spoken since the end of July. He said I could go out and join him for Christmas but it should be entirely my decision and he said I was not to bring out daughters."

The woman, married for 24 years and with two grown-up daughters, said she and her husband had lived in Kuwait for nearly a year. She had last seen him in June when he returned to Kuwait after his summer leave. Her plans to join him at that time had been upset by the Iraqi invasion.

She, like Mrs. Jones, who had been with him since September 6, said: "I can't understand him asking me to go out to join him. That was not my husband's talking. I'm sure about that. In his last letter he said: 'Thank God you're out of it. The telephone call lasted ten minutes. I said I didn't know what to do and he repeated that it was entirely up to me.'"

"He seemed to think that a lot of women were out there with their husbands but that's not the case. The call confused me at first, but I'm not going. I cannot go. I don't believe what my husband said and I can't believe that he really wants me to go."

"I suppose that after Christmas I would be expected to leave and my husband would still be there. I can't see what that would achieve. How can anyone, particularly an Arab who is the president of his country, see women in such a way?"

The woman said she was convinced her husband had invited her to join him because of pressure from the Iraqis. She had discussed the call with her daughters who she supported her decision not to accept. Foreign Office officials had also advised her not to go.

Jan Manning, an engineer who recently escaped by boat from Iraq, said she had since provided information and advice to the families of hostages, said many of the wives were in emotional turmoil after receiving the telephone calls. Some had decided not to go, some believed they had to go, and others were confused.

"It's a very emotive issue and some of these wives are very upset," he said. "Saddam Hussein is once again using women and children as a propaganda weapon."

Mr Manning and several of the wives expressed enthusiasm.

Continued on page 22, col 1

Labour may keep nuclear weapons

By PHILIP WEBSTER, CHIEF POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

THE Labour leadership has explicitly acknowledged the possibility of a Labour government keeping nuclear weapons for Britain while other countries retain them.

In an interview with *The Times*, Gerald Kaufman emphasises that Labour's new defence policy in no way commits the party to removing Polaris and Trident regardless of what the Soviet Union and other countries do with their weapons.

The shadow foreign secretary emphasises that Labour has deliberately refrained from setting a timetable for removing nuclear weapons.

Labour's policy, passed by two successive party conferences, is to put British weapons into the Start 2 superpower disarmament negotiations to help towards its objective of securing a nuclear-free world. The abandonment of the previous nuclear policy has been seen as the most dramatic of all the changes pushed through by Neil Kinnock since 1987 and the one most symbolic of the party's break with its past.

In confirming the new policy, Mr Kaufman says that Labour refuses to prejudge the outcome of disarmament negotiations.

His remarks represent a significant refinement of the policy that he has guided through the party machine over the past three years. They go some way towards heading off Conservative claims that Labour remains unilateralist because its policy of negotiating away Britain's independent deterrent means that ultimately the country would be without nuclear weapons while potential enemies had them.

Full interview, page 6

Murdoch's share of BSB 'should be cut'

By MELINDA WITTSOCK, MEDIA CORRESPONDENT

THE government will be under pressure this week to use powers set out in the Broadcasting Act to limit News International's half share of the merged British Sky Broadcasting to 20 per cent.

Labour, which attacked the merger at the weekend as a "mockery" of legislation designed to encourage competition and choice, said that the cross-media ownership rules set out in the act must apply to what is now a satellite monopoly. News International, the circulation of whose national newspapers (including *The Times*) amounts to 34.6 per cent of the British total, last night dismissed the claim that British Sky Broadcasting was a monopoly.

Andrew Knight, chief executive, said: "Five channels out of 16 on the Astra satellite system is not a monopoly. By 1992, Astra will have 48 channels: there is no way we will physically be able to dominate it." It is understood that British Sky Broadcasting could get around foreign and cross-ownership rules if it broadcasts entirely on the

Luxembourg-based Astra, as planned. In spite of attempts to bring Sky under the same rules governing BSB, the government justified Sky's exemption largely on the basis that there were two competing satellite companies in the UK.

Labour now wants the 20 per cent rule to apply to the merged group even if it broadcasts solely on Astra. Robin Corbett, shadow-broadcasting minister, said: "Everyone should play by the same rules. I don't care whether that applies to Murdoch, Maxwell or Karl Marx. A monopoly has been created where the government said there would be more choice."

The Home Office and the IBA, who were not consulted prior to the deal, have asked for a detailed submission from the merged group. No meetings have been set up as yet. A Home Office broadcasting spokesman said: "We will look at the merger very carefully, assessing the implications for UK broadcasting."

Lord Thomson of Monmouth, the former IBA chairman, described the timing of the deal as "opportunistic and cynical", and called for the

deal to be referred to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission.

John Lewis, chief executive of Granada, one of BSB's main shareholders, said that News International would not have control over the new group. "It's a despatched company set up with the proviso that the four BSB shareholders vote as one," he said.

BSB shareholders said last night as many as 700 jobs could be lost as a result of the merger. Management of the combined group will decide this week who will be made redundant out of a total combined staff of 1,408.

IBA to decide, page 2
Takeover panel, page 23

Brand's trip, page 7
Bush must act, page 10

Israel firm

Israel has branded as unacceptable a call by Javier Pérez de Cuellar, UN secretary-general, for a review of its compliance with the Geneva convention in the treatment of Palestinians. Page 7

Van Gogh sale

Elizabeth Taylor is to sell her favourite painting at Christie's next month — Van Gogh's *A View of the Asylum and Chapel at St Rémy*. Page 22

Actress dies

Mary Martin, 76, whose many Broadway roles included *South Pacific*, died yesterday. Her son is Larry Hagman, J.R. Ewing in *Dallas*. Page 8

Business hopes

Britain's entry into the exchange-rate mechanism and interest rate cuts have boosted business confidence, according to the latest survey by the Institute of Directors. Page 23

Piquet victory

Nelson Piquet won the Australian grand prix at Adelaide, the final race of the Formula One season, in a narrow victory over Nigel Mansell. Page 32

Liverpool win

Liverpool beat Tottenham 3-1 at White Hart Lane, with two goals by Ian Rush. Page 36

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RAISED IN THE HIGHLANDS.



THE FAMOUS GROUSE FINEST SCOTCH WHISKY

QUALITY IN AN AGE OF CHANGE.

Election off — the voter has gone to Peru

By EDWARD GORMAN, IRISH AFFAIRS CORRESPONDENT

THE Irish take democracy seriously. In proportional representation, they also practise what is arguably a higher form of democracy than the British. Most heartening of all, though, is that they go out of their way to ensure that every last farmer and fisherman gets to vote.

At election time, the west of Ireland, with its rugged islands buffeted by the raging Atlantic, always presents special difficulties. Ferry boats can reach these windswept and isolated communities with supplies often only once a week.

On five of them, Inishbfin, Inishree, Arranmore, and Tory Island

off the Donegal coast, and Inish Turbot, off the Galway coast, voting for Wednesday's presidential election has already been held to make sure that ballot papers are in on time. On Inishbfin and Inishree there has been a result which, as *The Irish Times* observed at the weekend, "will be of great interest to psephologists in all political parties".

The result was no votes for any of the three candidates. When polling staff and ballot papers arrived at considerable expense by Air Corps helicopter on Inishbfin on Friday, they discovered that the 30 voters normally living there had abandoned their homes for winter shelter on the mainland. The polling station re-

mained open for four hours before this became apparent to the polling station staff.

On Inishree, the authorities made extraordinary efforts to ensure that the one registered voter got his chance to choose the next president of Ireland. Officials who travelled to the island by boat with his ballot paper found, however, that he had emigrated to Peru 18 months ago.

The first votes actually cast in the elections were on Tory Island, which has 110 voters, and Arranmore, which has 609. The turnout was reported to be low on both islands which have suffered badly from emigration. On Inish Turbot, voting did take place on Saturday. In 1982, there were 40

registered voters on the island, but migration to the mainland has reduced this to just one family, the Hannon. Bridget Hannon, the mother, acted as the presiding officer. Her son, Patrick, was the polling clerk, and another son, Michael, was given the job of rowing a policeman across from the mainland to check that there was no monkey business. The other members of the electorate were Mr Hannon and a third son, John.

Sadly for democracy, *The Irish Times* noted that none of the political parties felt it worthwhile to send out persuasion officers to be present as the Hannon cast their votes.

Presidential campaign, page 2

Police losing millions 'by selling itself too cheaply'

By STEWART TENDLER, CRIME CORRESPONDENT

POLICE are losing millions of pounds in scarce income by undercharging and sloppy accounting for services to the public, central government and other forces, according to a report published today by the Audit Commission.

Football clubs alone may be undercharged by at least £2 million a year, according to the report, *Taking Care of the Coppers: Income Generation by Provincial Police Forces*.

The commission points to a force where 101 officers were deployed for a football match and only seven were included on the bill to the club. It also identified a force that undercharged local clubs by £946,000 in the 1989-90 season.

The report comes amid growing discussion in police circles about how to increase income. In London, Scotland Yard has negotiated new rates for policing football grounds.

Shortage of dog recruits

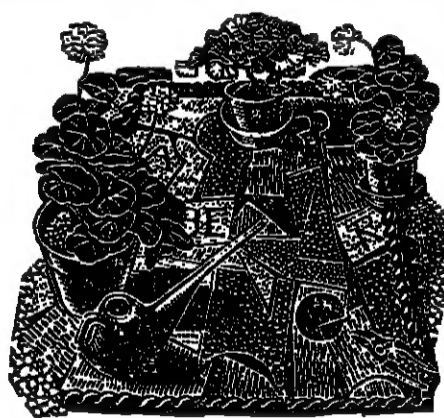
CANINE recruits to police forces are in increasingly short supply (Stewart Tandler writes). Forces are finding it hard to find suitable German shepherds, the mainstay of the 2,300-strong police dog corps.

Traditionally, police have relied on unwanted puppies donated by the public, but the number of suitable candidates has shrunk significantly. A few years ago Scotland Yard would have been offered 20 a week; now six is more usual. Out of 500 dogs offered last year, only 27 were accepted.

This autumn the West Mercia force appealed to the public for dogs aged between one year and 18 months, physically fit, with a good temperament and preferably from a family background. Midlands force officers have travelled through the country to acquire suitable dogs and other forces have also put out appeals.

Other breeds have not been found as useful or effective by the police. It is thought that fewer dogs are being donated because their owners are keeping them for home protection.

from The Mouth of The Lure.



A KICK UP THE ARTS.

MODERN ART. A contradiction in terms, wouldn't you agree?

Picasso, for goodness' sake, was positively square compared with his precursors, curse them all. Precious few of the blighters would pass muster as decent painters and decorators.

I, for one, would be the last to invite Jackson Pollock to wallopp the walls *chez moi*.

And what pearls of wisdom or light of enlightenment have they bestowed upon the world?

Hockney tells us that there are a lot of swimming pools in California O blinding flash of insight!

While, as for Bacon, a biting *noir* *famille* if ever there was one, most of his scrawlings (pork) resemble the interior of the local butcher's shop.

The latest thing, we hear, is crazy paving (the artist? sculptor? landscape gardener? should and will remain anonymous.) Yes, the careful arrangement of chunks of slate, large and small, into jolly little circles or squares. A talking point on the patio, maybe, but sitting in slate in the Tate? (Where, one might add, one dare not so much as use a litter bin for fear of defiling some priceless exhibit, though one's crumpled copy of *The Times*, casually discarded on the foyer

ABERLOUR
10 YEARS OLD

SINGLE SPEYSIDE MALT



Pace setters: Tikki Adorian, of Toy Horse International, with two strings of miniature ponies that are to be exported by jet to the United States today

IBA to decide this week on satellite merger

By MELINDA WITTSTOCK, MEDIA CORRESPONDENT

THE Independent Broadcasting Authority is to decide this week whether the merger last Friday of Sky Television and British Satellite Broadcasting contravenes the new Broadcasting Act. The authority is expected to decide whether the merger, which was carried out the day after the act was passed.

The IBA admits that it has no powers to stop the deal. It could, however, withdraw the new British Sky Broadcasting's licence to transmit via the DBS Marco Polo satellite under foreign and cross-media ownership restrictions in the act that could prevent News International from owning more than 20 per cent of a domestic satellite channel.

The government has yet to decide whether BSB will be subject to the same rules prohibiting owners of national newspapers from holding more than 20 per cent of terrestrial television channels.

It is thought that British Sky Broadcasting could get around the cross-ownership rules if it broadcasts solely on the non-domestic Astra satellite service, controlled from Luxembourg. In spite of repeated attempts in the Lords and Commons to bring Sky under the same rules that governed the old BSB, the government justified Sky's exemption from the ownership restriction on the basis

that there were two competing satellite services.

The Labour party said last night that it was "deeply suspicious" about the timing of the merger. Robin Corbett, shadow broadcasting minister, said that Parliament would have seen the matter of Sky's exemption in "wholly different light" if the deal had been announced before the bill received royal assent last Thursday.

But Andrew Knight, chief executive of News International, said that both parties had planned to have the deal done by last weekend. Derek Lewis, chief executive of Granada, one of the four main shareholders of the old BSB, said that it was a pure coincidence that the deal was put together after the act had been passed.

An IBA spokesman said there was bound to be "a great deal of disquiet" in Parliament this week, with further calls from all sides of the house to use the merger as an opportunity to bring Sky under the auspices of IBA regulation for the first time.

Labour has called on the government to apply the 20 per cent rule to the merged group even if it broadcasts solely on Astra. News International last night dismissed the claim that the new British Sky Broadcasting was a monopoly. Mr Knight said: "It's the ignorance of the politicians that dumbfounds me. If the merged group was operating entirely on the DBS system, with a monopoly of five out of five channels, then I could understand it. But British Sky Broadcasting will have just five channels out of a potential 48 on an open and competitive system. That is not a monopoly."

Sky now operates four channels out of 16 on Astra. By February, there will be 16 more Astra channels available followed by another 16 in 1992.

The IBA, which has demanded precise details of the merger, said that it will consider the repercussions of the deal to "ultimately determine whether BSB's contract is null and void". A spokesman said: "Can we permit the merged group to use the DBS frequencies when the ownership flies directly in the face of the legislation?" The IBA could advise the DBS service to another consortium, but industry sources say that only fools would put up millions to compete with a stronger merged group in the middle of a recession.

CBI likely to revise pay data upwards

By PHILIP BASSETT, INDUSTRIAL EDITOR

GOVERNMENT hopes that pay settlements are declining are expected to suffer a blow if, as seems likely, the Confederation of British Industry is forced to revise upwards its most recent evidence on the levels of wage deals in Britain.

Ministers, seized on the figures published last month by the CBI from its pay databank, which the employers' body said showed the first evidence of pay settlements moving down. The data showed that settlements in manufacturing averaged 8.5 per cent in the three months to the end of September.

The CBI always insists that these figures are provisional and it looks likely that they will be revised upwards when Databank figures are published next month. When the CBI published its figures, independent pay researchers suggested that the 8.5 per cent figure was too low, largely because it had been published too early. They claimed it did not take into account the full range of higher settlements for the whole of September.

● Inflation will continue to force the pace of pay increases in spite of hopes of a slowdown, according to the November report from Incomes Data Services (Kevin Eason writes).

The pay review group says today that its findings, coupled with those from the Engineering Employers' Federation, show that there is no slackening in the rate of increases pitched at or above the rate of inflation.

Of 107 deals recorded in the three months to the end of September, the group found 72 providing basic rate increases of 9.9 per cent, and a further 17 adding 10 per cent or more. The remaining 13 deals were slightly below the then inflation rate with agreements of between 8 per cent and 8.9 per cent.

floor, has every chance of becoming one and will, like as not, soon find itself roped off in its own little temenos, the object of mass veneration.)

Aberlour Single Malt Whisky is, of course, an ancient art, inured in the time-honoured ways of our forefathers.

And if it is to claim commonality with any of those dabblers in oil and water, it would be with Turner. Both being justly famous for the magnificent mellow glow they create. ●

Call for an independent body to look at miscarriages of justice

By FRANCES GIBB, LEGAL AFFAIRS CORRESPONDENT

AN INDEPENDENT body with statutory powers should be set up outside the court system to investigate suspected miscarriages of justice, the Legal Action Group says today.

In the latest call to be made for new machinery on miscarriages of justice, the group says that such a body is needed to restore "the serious loss of confidence in our criminal justice system" that has arisen from a few highly publicised cases.

The body, which would report to and advise the home secretary, would look into cases in which defendants had exhausted the appeal process but still felt that they had been wrongly convicted.

The Legal Action Group,

whose comments come in its submission to Sir John May's enquiry into the Guildford and Woolwich bombing convictions, says that only cases involving convictions for serious offences or involving a long custodial sentence (such as more than five years) should be reviewed.

LAG, a group of 3,000 lawyers and advice workers who work chiefly with the disadvantaged, says that the new body would not hold hearings or become a "super court" overriding the Court of Appeal, as proposed by some organisations.

"In our view, it would be inappropriate for such a body to exercise a judicial function," LAG says. "The creation of a new, additional tier

in the criminal justice process is both costly and unnecessary."

Although setting up a new investigative body would require funds, that had to be set against "the serious loss of confidence in our criminal justice system arising from highly publicised miscarriages of justice which our system has shown itself unable quickly to resolve".

The new body's work would be solely investigative and it could refer a case to the Court of Appeal or recommend to the home secretary that some power (such as grant of a pardon) be exercised.

It would also have power to grant legal aid for enquiries to be made by the lawyers of the convicted person, and have

the resources to conduct its own investigations and compel the production of documents, exhibits and other evidence from the police.

The group also endorses the call by the Bar for a change in the law to relax the grounds on which a person can appeal against a conviction. Appeals should be allowed, it says, or a retrial granted, where the Court of Appeal considers that fresh evidence is so new and important that it would have had an effect on a jury.

● Prisoners face the prospect of longer jail terms in spite of government plans to reduce courts' use of custody, according to a report published today by the National Association for the Care and Resettlement of Offenders (Quentin Cowdry writes). It claims that the plans are deeply ambivalent and underline fears voiced by probation officers that the strategy may not cut the prison population.

While says that although accept that imprisonment is a bad punishment for most offenders, they do not seem to want to shorten sentences.

The association also claims proposals for curfews, enforced by electronic tagging, sit unhappily with government statements that community punishments should help foster self-discipline and accuse the government of only paying lip-service to the need for the criminal justice system to be operated without racial bias.

Such inconsistencies, Nacro says, mar a strategy which is otherwise far-sighted. "Taken as a whole, the (strategy) fails in important respects to address the inadequacies of current criminal justice policies."

Lenihan makes comeback in presidential election polls

By EDWARD GORMAN, IRISH AFFAIRS CORRESPONDENT

BRIAN Lenihan, the Irish deputy prime minister dismissed last week, is continuing to make a dramatic comeback in the presidential election.

An opinion poll published in *The Sunday Press* in Dublin yesterday, shows him five points behind Mary Robinson, the independent, who this time last week was 19 points ahead of him. The poll confirmed a poor performance by Austin Currie, the Fine Gael candidate.

In spite of the sympathy swing in favour of Mr Lenihan, Mrs Robinson, the nominated candidate of the Irish Labour party, has the best chance of winning, since many of Mr Currie's second preference votes will go to her under a transfer deal.

The poll, taken on Thursday, puts Mrs Robinson on 45 per cent, down from 51 per cent the previous weekend. Mr Lenihan is on 40 per cent,

up from 32 per cent, but six points adrift of his standing before "Dublingate". Mr Currie is backed by 14 per cent of voters, down three points on seven days ago.

Mr Lenihan, whose reputation as one of Ireland's best loved politicians was damaged over allegations that he lied on television, has been campaigning relentlessly since



Lenihan: sympathy votes after cabinet dismissal

being dismissed by Charles Haughey, the prime minister, last Wednesday. Over the weekend he said that he believed the campaign was running in his favour and he would attract about 46 per cent of first preference votes and take enough of Mr Currie's second preferences to win. The former deputy prime minister is trading heavily on the sympathy vote among members of Fianna Fail.

Concern in the party that Mrs Robinson could become the first woman president and the first president not backed by Fianna Fail in Irish history, is beginning to show. On Saturday Padraig Flynn, minister for the environment, said she had been given a new appearance and a new interest in women's issues. Mrs Robinson responded by appealing for women voters to back her.

Vanishing islanders, page 1

Police hold 50 in acid house raid

Police raided an acid house party yesterday and arrested 50 people. Officers involved in the raid on a warehouse in Cross Hills, Skipton, North Yorkshire, said they found evidence of drug-taking.

Residents had raised the alarm after seeing cars massing outside the building just before 5am. The organisers broke into the warehouse and opened the door. Police said that they may be making charges.

IRA 'face of evil'

Ireland's senior Protestant clergyman yesterday condemned the IRA as "the anti-Christ" and "the naked face of evil". Archbishop Robin Eames was speaking at the funeral of Company Sergeant Major Albert Cooper, the part-time Ulster Defence Regiment man killed on Friday by a booby trapped van bomb in Cookstown, Co Tyrone. The service was at Kildress parish church, near Cookstown.

BT 'at its best'

British Telecom's service is better than ever, the company said today. In a six-monthly report on quality, BT announces improvements in repairs, speed and reliability. Michael Bent, vice-chairman, said: "The investment we are putting into the company is now paying off." The report says that the proportion of BT's 95,000 payphones working at any one time rose from 95 to 96 per cent.

Bond winners

Winners in the National Savings Premium Bonds weekly draw are: £100,000 - 1077 54087, winner lives in London borough of Waltham Forest; £50,000 - 4FN 781698 (London borough of Wandsworth); £25,000, 5YS 413004 (Manchester).

Crossword championship

The finals of *The Times* Collins Dictionary 1991 Crossword Championship will be held as follows: Leeds, Queen's Hotel (capacity 300 competitors), Feb 24; Birmingham, Grand Hotel (300), March 10; London A and B, London Hilton, Park Lane (300), April 13 and 14; Glasgow, Stakis Normandy (unlimited), April 28; Bristol, Hilton International (200), May 19; National Final, London Hilton, July 7.

The qualifying puzzle for the championship will be published on Thursday, January 17, and the eliminator on Thursday, March 7.

By the way, the Times crossword is a puzzle made of numbers and letters. It is a puzzle that is as easy to use and as difficult to solve as any other puzzle. It is a puzzle that is as easy to use and as difficult to solve as any other puzzle. It is a puzzle that is as easy to use and as difficult to solve as any other puzzle.

Picture your year at a glance

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Trust faces internal strife after vote to ban deer hunting

By MICHAEL MCCARTHY, ENVIRONMENT CORRESPONDENT

THE National Trust faces a future of internal strife after members campaigning against blood sports at the weekend won a vote to ban deer hunting from trust land and came close to winning a ban on fox hunting.

To the dismay of many of its senior officials, Britain's largest conservation charity now seems likely to be the forum for a battle over hunting animals with hounds that will be increasingly politicised and bitter, setting member against member.

At the trust's annual general meeting in Llandudno, Gwynedd, on Saturday, members voted by 68,679 votes to 63,985 to ban the hunting of deer with hounds from trust land from August next year.

Most of the votes were by postal ballot.

A proposal to ban the hunting with hounds of foxes, hares and mink was lost by 69,324 votes to 63,191.

Two years ago, a proposal to ban the hunting of all animals with hounds was lost by 46,249 votes to 29,345. Al-

though Saturday's vote involved only 6.5 per cent of the 2 million members, and the successful resolution is not binding on the 52-strong governing council, it presents the trust with its most potentially damaging problem in its history, dating back 95 years.

The trust must first decide whether to implement the deer-hunting resolution, which would mean the end for one of the three West Country packs of staghounds, the Quantock, and could pose a serious threat to another, the Devon and Somerset.

Failure to take action would lay it open to the charge of high-handedness, and could lead to mass resignations. The trust then faces the more serious prospect of a renewed attempt against fox hunting winning the day at a future annual general meeting.

More than half of the trust's 625,000 acres are hunted over by packs of foxhounds, and a move to restrict their activities would alienate large sections of the trust's traditional rural supporters. Paul Shel-

don, a local government official from South Wales, who proposed the 1988 resolution and the weekend resolution on fox hunting, said: "We will bring forward motions like this again and again, until there is no more hunting with hounds on trust land."

Strong feelings were in evidence in the debate on the issue, which was attended by hundreds of hunting supporters.

Anti-bloodsports campaigners described stag hunting as "barbarous" and "an obscenity", while hunt supporters said that the herds of red deer on the Quantock and on Exmoor owed their existence to it.

Both lobbies accused the other of "entireism" - infiltrating the trust to promote their views - and Dame Jennifer Jenkins, outgoing chairman, and Lord Chorley, chairman elect, expressed their regret that the trust was being used as a political football. Dame Jennifer said: "I feel very strongly that this is an issue which ought properly to be settled in Parliament."

Lord Chorley, who takes over at the end of the year, said yesterday: "I regret that the trust funds itself being used as a football on what is clearly a national issue. We will now be the cockpit of discussion for two sets of people with very strong views, yet this is what parliaments are for."

One reason given by the trust's council for opposing the resolutions on Saturday was the damage likely to be done by a split. On the moral question, the trust professes to remain neutral.

The deer-hunting resolution, seconded by Dame Janet Fookes and Steven Norris, both Tory MPs, and the Right Rev John Baker, bishop of Salisbury, was proposed by Doreen Cronin and Diana Wilson, two former Tory councillors from Somerset.

The women set up the Devon and Somerset Residents' Association for Deer Protection after the incident in village of Porlock, Somerset, in October 1987, when a hind pursued by the Devon and Somerset Staghounds sought refuge on the roof of a school.

The two women said that they were surprised and delighted with the result of the vote. Dame Jennifer said that at its next meeting on December 13, take serious account of the recommendations that the members had expressed. The council faces a particular embarrassment over the 15,000 acres on Exmoor over which it controls the hunting rights, in that the largest portion, the 10,200 acre former Holnicote estate on the slopes of Dunkery Beacon, was given to it by Sir Richard Acland in 1944, with a memorandum stating his wish that deer hunting should be allowed to continue. Sir Richard, now 83, has recently written to Angus Stirling, director-general of the trust, reaffirming his position.

The trust will be under pressure from the anti-blood sports lobby to ignore Sir Richard's wishes, as they have no legal force. Yet it has always paid particular attention to the wishes of donors. Sir Richard declined to comment yesterday, and said that he intended to make a statement in the near future.

Leading article, page 11



Berlin fragments: large pieces of the Berlin Wall attracting tourists' attention at The Economist plaza in St James's Street, central London. Fisher Fine Art will auction these this week. Meanwhile, a Cambridge archaeologist is campaigning to save a two-kilometre stretch of the wall in the most prominent part of the city, against the wishes of most Berliners (Simon Tait writes). Christopher Chippendale, a curator at Cambridge university museum and editor of *Antiquity*, believes some of the wall should be restored. "There are a number of schemes being argued about, but it is the most important European monument of the 20th century and should not be left to Berliners to decide on," he said. His views are the subject of a new Channel 4 television series on archaeology, *Down to Earth*, to be televised from tomorrow night. Dr Chippendale believes that a stretch of the wall beginning by the old Reichstag and stretching along the river Spree into the city could be a poignant permanent exhibit. "It's important to make a distinction between the Nazi period and the reasons for the wall, which was to do with the cold war." Many Germans wanted some of the wall preserved "but not their bit", he said. "All our effort goes

into preserving things that are considered fine art. Where we have a gap in keeping things of historical importance which don't qualify as fine art." There was no example of a 1930s production-line car factory surviving, despite recent attempts to preserve one in America. "We should also be looking for monuments to nuclear weapons to preserve, but it is more difficult to identify one."

Funding call for baby lung operation trials

By JILL SHERMAN, SOCIAL SERVICES CORRESPONDENT

A LEADING paediatrician yesterday called on the government to fund clinical trials of a life-saving procedure for babies with damaged lungs.

Last month, a baby, only a few days old, had his blood oxygenated outside her body in a pioneering operation at Groby Road hospital, Leicestershire. Rachael Cook, now 18 days' old, making good progress. The operation is believed to be the first time the technique, developed in America, has been successfully carried out in this country on such a small baby. However, charities had to meet the £5,000 cost of the procedure as it is not yet recognised by the National Health Service.

David Harvey, consultant paediatrician at Queen Charlotte's hospital, west London, called yesterday for proper clinical trials before the procedure was adopted nationwide. Dr Harvey said that many paediatricians had been concerned that early trials in Europe and America had not been properly randomised, so that there was no comparison with similar babies who had not undergone the procedure. Recent studies in the US had, however, suggested the treatment could save some babies.

"We need more evidence. The government should fund proper trials so that we can assess if it is successful, determine how many babies would require it, and decide whether it should become available on the NHS," Dr Harvey said. "Charities can always help out the health service where resources are stretched but we should not be relying on them to fund research."

Rachael Cook inhaled body fluids, which damaged her lungs when she was born. She was unable to oxygenate her blood after being put on a

ventilator and was transferred to the specialist Groby Road hospital. Surgeons inserted tubes through her neck into her heart to withdraw her blood so that it could be artificially oxygenated by a machine, before being returned to the body.

Dr Harvey said that the costs of the operation were high and that it would probably benefit only a few dozen babies every year. It cannot be used on premature babies as their blood vessels are not large enough. The operation could, however, be of benefit to normal-weight babies.

The American was bought by the Variety Club of Great Britain, and the treatment paid for by Heart-Link, a charity set up by the parents of sick children.

● A leading London teaching hospital has cancelled out patient appointments and told

GPs to stop referring orthopaedic patients, as part of a package of measures to save £2 million by March.

St Thomas's hospital has told local GPs they will have to refer elsewhere patients needing orthopaedic operations such as knee and hip replacements. Patients already with an appointment will not be seen. The hospital, which has applied to become a self-governing trust, said that most patients needing an orthopaedic operation had to wait 50-80 weeks before getting an out-patient appointment.

GPs said that the restrictions were unacceptable, denied patients' rights and could breach GPs' contractual obligations to provide referral services. The move would also lead to longer waiting lists at other hospitals at a time when national lists had reached a high of 960,000.

Computer link to beat car thieves

By KEVIN EASON, MOTORING CORRESPONDENT

FOR an elite band of car thieves, profits worth hundreds of millions of pounds a year begin at Dover.

The powers of insurance investigators end at the shore of the Channel, and they cannot recover the weekly average of almost 600 stolen cars taken on ferries to the Continent.

The Association of British Insurers (ABI) estimates that about 30,000 stolen cars are taken across the Channel each year - a third of the European cross-border traffic in stolen vehicles.

The expensive limousines and sports cars leaving Britain, often stolen by drug traffickers and arms dealers moving illicit merchandise, may be worth as much as £600 million. Most are not recovered because insurance investigators cannot act outside their own nations, even though they may be able to trace a stolen car's route

across Europe, to Italy or Spain and on to countries such as Morocco. Eastern Europe is becoming an increasingly popular destination.

However, an initiative by British insurers will forge a link between 15 nations that will raise hopes of repatriating stolen cars. The 15 have agreed to share information on about 90,000 vehicles a year believed to be stolen and then driven across borders.

The co-operation will mean that a British insurer knowing the likely route of a stolen car could send information by computer to counterparts in each nation along the way, whose investigators could track the car.

Tracking is often not so difficult because thieves choose expensive models that provide comfort and reliability on long journeys and can be resold easily after being switched to left-hand drive.



A hunted hind seeking safety on a roof in 1987

AGENDA

The week ahead

Today Mrs Thatcher addresses the Second World Climate Conference in Geneva. Douglas Hurd, foreign secretary, and Michael Howard, employment secretary, address the CBI conference in Glasgow.

Tomorrow The Whitbread Book of the Year category prize winners are announced. A national conference on water quality opens in Birmingham.

Wednesday The Queen's speech at the state opening of Parliament. The Irish presidential election is held.

Thursday The Queen's speech is debated. The Bootle and Bradford North by-elections are held. The Prince of Wales and Chris Patten, environment secretary, attend the launch of the Business in the Environment campaign. The National Association for the Care and Resettlement of Offenders holds AGM.

Friday CND's annual conference opens in Coventry. A portrait of Ian Botham, the cricketer, on auction at Christie's.

Saturday The Queen attends the Royal British Legion Festival of Remembrance at the Albert Hall. The Lord Mayor's Show in London.

Sunday Remembrance Sunday. The Ramblers' Association launches a report in Harrogate on access to the countryside.

10m living in poverty book says

THE number of children living in poverty doubled between 1979 and 1987 though the average income grew by 23 per cent in real terms, the Child Poverty Action Group says in a book published today (Jill Sherman writes).

It says that more than 10 million people, including one in five children, were living in poverty in 1987. They were defined as those on or below supplementary benefit level or on half the average income.

In the first eight years of the present government, the number of children living in households below the supplementary benefit level grew from 290,000 to 490,000, while those on and below the benefit level rose from 1.2 million to 2.5 million.

The share of pre-tax income for the poorest fifth fell from 0.5 to 0.3 per cent, and the richest fifth's rose from 45 per cent to 51 per cent. Post-tax income increased for the richest fifth from 40 to 45 per cent, and fell for the poorest fifth from 6.1 to 5.1 per cent.

Poverty: The Facts (CPAG, 4th Floor, 1-5 Bath Street, London EC1V 9PY; £5.95)

Spanish tourist chiefs aim to create Costa del Cricket

From HARVEY ELLIOTT IN BUDAPEST

THE fish and chip shop signs are being torn down along the Costa del Sol as Spain tries to change its image and attract the kind of British tourist who is more interested in local culture than cheap beer.

This more affluent visitor will, however, still want some reminder of home, according to local tourist officials. So with the help of public and private money they have built two stadiums in which the itinerant Englishman can indulge in what many regard as God's Own Game - cricket.

Already the pitch at Torremolinos Beach Club has been inaugurated, and a second is being prepared at Fuengirola near by. Antonio Andreu, the Costa del Sol's marketing director, was reinforcing the message yesterday to 2,500 delegates at the annual convention of the Association of British Travel Agents (Abta) in Budapest. According to Señor Andreu, the 50,000 British residents, and a growing number of Spanish, are more than capable of putting together sides to challenge the best that the Club Cricket Conference can throw at them. In spite of the acknowledge-

ment that cricket is capable of calming even the rowdiest sun-seeker, the game is still in its infancy compared with golf on the Spanish southern coast. So many courses are being built that several airlines are planning charter flights from the United States, where golf is regarded as an essential part of a package holiday.

Señor Andreu said: "The Phoenicians left their mark on the Costa del Sol when they became the first tourists 4,000 years ago. They were followed

by the Greeks, Romans and Arabs, all of whom had their own ideas on what they wanted from a holiday.

"In the last 35 years the British have dominated and still account for 50 per cent of the total number of foreign tourists. The problem is that the things which attracted the less well-off in the 1960s have now resulted in a bad image for the region as a whole."

The region is spending £700 million on improving its facilities with 26 new golf courses and the refurbishment of 12 of the biggest hotels. Last year 1,700,000 Britons visited the Costa del Sol - 20 per cent down on the previous 12 months. The signs are that British holidaymakers are rejecting resorts that have become environmental victims of their own success.

The number of complaints from holidaymakers about environmental matters is, according to Abta, rising sharply forcing tour operators to re-think their attitudes.

John Boyle, chairman of the tour operators' group of Abta, said last night: "People are voting with their cheque books to go to places which are less cluttered with fewer high density buildings. They want to be part of the environment, not part of its destruction."



Costa del Sol efforts to change outdated image

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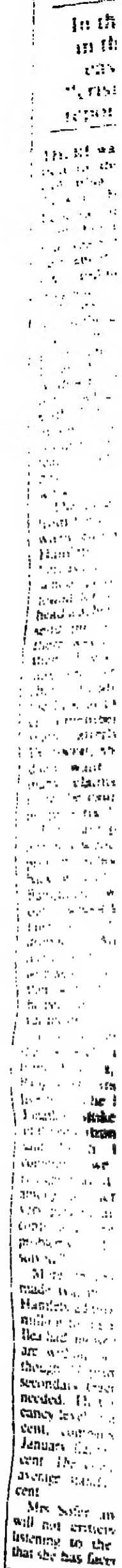
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How

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This defence is known for about 150 years. It was first used by Karpov's eighth move before Botvinnik. In defence it was a n Kasparov could do but acquire in a s

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High hopes over teacher shortage turn-around

In the dying days of *Ile*, education in the borough of Tower Hamlets, east London, was described as a "crisis out of control". David Tyler reports. Today, it is a different story

THERE was a small celebration in the staff room of Columbia primary school, Tower Hamlets, east London, just before half term. For the first time in four years, the school had a permanent staff of 23 teachers — and none of them had resigned.

Prunty Bentley, who joined the school as its head teacher in 1986, when it was under the control of the Inner London Education Authority (*Ile*), cannot hide her relief and pride in her staff. "I think we all feel very optimistic here. I have a full complement of 23 excellent teachers and that makes it possible to run a good school."

The situation is a far cry from the dying days of *Ile*, when education in Tower Hamlets was described as a "crisis out of control", when school places could not be found for 370 children and head teachers were having to send pupils home because there was nobody to teach them. The turn-around has surprised even Anne Sofer, chief education officer on the Liberal Democrat council. A member of *Ile* for ten years, later as a Social Democrat, she said: "I just don't want to make too many claims and would rather be cautious. There is no quick fix."

There are plans to build one new secondary and five primary schools, and the backlog of children, mostly Bangladeshi, who have been out of school for a year has fallen to 160 and is still dropping. An aggressive recruitment drive, coupled with assistance to teachers in their search for housing, has helped to reduce teaching vacancies dramatically. This year, new teachers in the borough included 22 from America, nine from Bangladesh and a further five from The Netherlands. Jonathan Stokes, chairman of the education committee, said: "With the diverse community we have here it is right that it is reflected among the teachers. We are very pleased and, if things continue as they are, most problems will have been solved."

More money has been made available, with Tower Hamlets adding an extra £6 million to the £104 million *Ile* had allowed. No classes are without a teacher, although 77 primary and 26 secondary teachers are still needed. That means a vacancy level of about 5.5 per cent, compared with the January figure of 10.2 per cent. The Greater London average stands at 5.3 per cent.

Mrs Sofer and her staff will not criticise *Ile* but, listening to the difficulties that she has faced, it is clear

that things had been moving out of control. Children due to start school were taken to their nearest school, often only for their parents to be told that there were no places. Although a school a little further away could have found room, the children were taken home and stayed there.

With her staff, Mrs Sofer is now more systematic about such a situation, hunting down places and gradually reducing the waiting list.

At the other end of the system, pupils left school without the careers service being aware of what had happened to 28.9 per cent of school leavers aged 16. This year that figure dropped to 6.7 per cent, compared to the Greater London average of 14.2 per cent.

Along with closer monitoring has come an improvement in the numbers of youngsters staying on: 25 per cent last year, 33 per cent this year. Twenty per cent are going on to further education, compared with 12 per cent last year.

If there is a lesson to be learnt from Tower Hamlets, it is that, properly directed, local resources and services can be moved where they are needed more quickly than by a large and, often impersonal, regional authority. Mrs Bentley's school, which dates back to 1865, needs frequent repairs and improvements. "We used to have to wait weeks for things to be done under *Ile*, but now it all happens very quickly and there is a greater understanding of our needs."

Mrs Sofer said: "There is hardly a school in Tower Hamlets that is not covered in scaffolding, but it shows we are getting on with things." Some of the most obvious scaffolding is to be found at Tower Hamlets college, which is being redesigned to accommodate a sixth form college from September next year.

Annette Zera, the new principal, said: "Our new extension will be symbolic, sophisticated and smart and not just look like a second-hand school. We have to wake the students up again." At Columbia primary, where 80 per cent of the children are Bangladeshi and nearly every class has a child who cannot speak English, Mrs Bentley is glad of the change in circumstances.

"There are good teachers coming into our schools. As *Ile* died, there were more people leaving than coming in. Now there is the promise of much greater stability and the chance to run a good school and raise standards."

Education pages, 14-16



Look and learn: Deepa Bhattacharjee, a teacher, gives pupils a mathematics lesson

Hard left determined on calls for strikes

HARD LEFT teachers are determined to call strikes in the new year, it emerged from a special conference of the National Union of Teachers. In an attempt at unity, the moderate leadership agreed that strikes would be used as a last resort to support the union's claim for an all-round increase of £1,500 plus 10 per cent on present classroom pay, ranging from £9,000 to £16,000 (David Tyler writes).

Doug McAvoy, NUT general secretary, risked offending the national executive, which had carried the Scarborough conference by promising to support strikes if and when necessary, by saying: "I do not believe there will be any strikes before Easter."

The hard-left teachers failed to persuade the conference to order a ballot of the NUT's 190,000 members by the end of November for a one-day strike early next year, to protest at the 1991-2 pay offer from the government-appointed Interim Advisory Committee on teachers' pay (IAC), followed by a campaign of escalating strike action.

The NUT wants an increase of about 20 per cent, while the IAC has been told to work within the middle range of white collar rises in the 12 months up to the end of this month, expected to be around 10 per cent. After the conference, Mr McAvoy said: "I

am delighted that the extreme left view, which was to rush into action, was defeated. It would have given us internal problems over membership and external problems in keeping parental and public support."

Richard Rieser, a teacher from Hackney, east London, who led the call for strike action, said: "The members will push for action before Easter with a one-day strike followed by a series of regional demonstrations." Gordon

Green, the treasurer, said that the NUT was prepared to take industrial action, but it would have to be well planned and the majority of members would have to be prepared to say yes in a ballot.

Mr McAvoy said that he saw no reason why Kenneth Clarke, the new education secretary, should seek a confrontation. "We don't want confrontation and do not see why he should. It is to nobody's benefit, least of all his."

Tories consider nursery vouchers

A MANIFESTO commitment to introduce vouchers for nursery education is being given serious consideration by Conservative policy advisers (Nicholas Wood writes).

The result could be a promise to give parents of young children a state "cheque" redeemable in the public or private sectors. It would counter Labour's pledge of nursery schooling for all three and four-year-olds whose parents want it, and provide a chance to assess the system for more widespread use.

Private polling conducted for the Conservatives has shown a slump in support

among young women voters, and the prime minister has identified family policy as a key element in her party's efforts to regain lost ground.

It is understood that members of the prime minister's Downing Street policy unit are taking a close interest in the progress of a voucher scheme in Wandsworth planned for next September. Parents of three and four-year-olds will be given a "passport" entitling their children to a place in one of the council's nursery classes. The scheme could be extended to nurseries run by church schools or other voluntary-aided groups.

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Karpov defence ploy triumphs

By RAYMOND KEENE, CHESS CORRESPONDENT

THE tenth game of the world chess championship in New York, which ended early on Saturday morning, was a signal success for a new defensive strategy by the challenger, Anatoly Karpov. The game ended in a draw after 18 moves with every effort by the world champion, Gary Kasparov, who played white, to seize the initiative parried by Karpov's accurate defence.

Karpov added a new element to chess defensive strategy with his eighth move, Nf5. Clearly dissatisfied by the positions he had been getting from the Ruy Lopez opening in his earlier games as black, Karpov switched to the Petroff defence. This defence has been known for about 150 years but no one has ever played Karpov's eighth move in this game before. For connoisseurs of defence it was a revelation. Kasparov could do nothing but acquiesce in a symmetrical

cal pawn structure and whole-sale exchange of pieces, which led to an inevitable draw. After ten games the match is at deadlock with five points to each player. Many experts before this contest were predicting a heavy margin of victory for Kasparov of three to four points but such prognostications are proving wide of the mark.

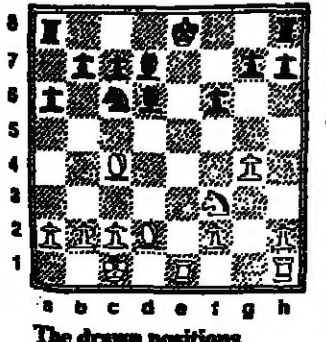
Nothing that has happened so far in New York contradicts the view that the present world championship match will be an exceedingly close encounter, possibly going right down to the wire, the maximum number of games. 24. Two more games will be played in New York, at which point the championship will transfer to Lyons in France after a suitable period of rest for both players to recuperate and acclimatise. The first game of the Lyons section will begin on November 24. The final outcome is expected just before Christmas.

The running scores are: Kasparov ½ 1 ½ ½ ½ 0 ½ ½ ½ 5. Karpov ½ 0 ½ ½ ½ ½ 1 ½ ½ 5.

Kasparov white, Karpov black.

White	Black	White	Black
1 e4	e5	10 Qe4	Qe7
2 Nf3	Nf6	11 Ng5	R6
3 d4	exd4	12 Bx2	Bc7
4 e5	Nc6	13 0-0	0-0
5 Qxd4	Qd5	14 Nxd4	Na7
6 Nxe5	Nxe5	15 g4	g6
7 Nc3	Nc5	16 Bc4	Nb5
8 Qd1	Nf5	17 Nxd5	exd5
9 Qd5	Bd6	18 Rd1	

Draw agreed



The drawn position

Brandt sets off on hostage mission with Bonn's blessing

FROM IAN MURRAY IN BONN

WILLY Brandt, the former West German chancellor, flies to Baghdad today on board a Lufthansa Airbus, taking with him \$300,000 worth of medical supplies and children's food. He has the best wishes of the German government for his mission to free as many hostages as possible.

While The Netherlands called for a special meeting of EC foreign ministers to try to prevent any further missions of this sort by prominent individuals from member states, the Bonn government issued a statement saying that its goal remained in line with the Rome summit's declaration which called for the immediate release of hostages from all countries.

Hans van den Broek, the Dutch foreign minister, asked for the special EC meeting because, he said, his country was "concerned over the continuation of missions and that five days after an EC summit during which a declaration was issued saying there would be no missions to Iraq, the Brandt mission was announced."

Community ministers will therefore meet in Rome today or tomorrow in the margins of a Council of Europe session, when the German government can expect to be asked to explain what other countries, especially Britain, regard as a gross breach of the unanimous position agreed by the summit against official support for individual initiatives of this kind.

The unsolicited statement by the Christian Democrat-led government suggests that with an election only a month away, it is ready to risk EC condemnation rather than allow Herr Brandt, a Social Democrat, to win all the glory for what is domestically a very popular mission. Relatives of hostages have demonstrated outside the chancellery in Bonn and opinion polls show that there is wide backing for negotiations to win their release.

In its statement, the government tried to justify backing the Brandt mission by setting it in a wider context than that of the people concerned. "In the interests of the federal government, the federal government wishes success to Willy Brandt's journey," it said. "It hopes that as many hostages as possible, German and citizens of other states, will be freed."

Last week, without consulting Herr Brandt, the government tried but failed to enlarge his mission to include Willy de Clerq, the Belgian European commissioner, and Emilio Colombo, the former Italian prime minister. Yesterday's statement explained that they would not be going for two reasons. One was that the Iraqi invitation to visit Baghdad had been made to Herr Brandt only in his capacity as president of the Socialist International and did not include members of other political groups. The other was that the United Nations had not been prepared to approve of such a delegation to act on its behalf.

Herr Brandt, who dislikes the way the coalition government has tried to take credit for his mission, said at the weekend that he had always intended to go alone and

had never tried to win the backing of Javier Pérez de Cuellar, the UN secretary-general.

"I am man enough to make the points I have to make on my own," the Nobel prize-winning politician said proudly. "I am Willy Brandt. I am known in the world even without a letter of recommendation from Pérez de Cuellar." His mission, he said, would be both humanitarian and political. "It is obvious what humanitarian means. Political efforts will mean finding out if there is an alternative to war."

He sets out with high expectations for winning the release of a large number of hostages. According to an SPD spokesman, he does not even expect to have to negotiate on the question of hostages, although he added that reports were "nonsense" claiming Herr Brandt had been given a promise in advance that all 400 Germans and up to 100 other Europeans would be freed.

The fact that the former chancellor asked Lufthansa for the use of a wide-bodied Airbus capable of carrying up to 375 passengers suggests he must hope to come back with more than the 33 Britons handed over to Edward Heath, the former British prime minister. Within government circles here some scorn has been poured on Mr Heath for trying to win the release of only British hostages.

The fact that Herr Brandt is going to try on behalf of hostages from all nations is seen as further evidence that his mission is not one included in the terms of the EC summit declaration. At the special EC meeting, support for the German position could also come from France. Claude Cheysson, the former French foreign minister and EC commissioner, who has been charged by President Mitterrand to explain France's position on Iraq, said in a television interview on Saturday that a hardline attitude had little to do with European concerns.

M Cheysson, who refused to confirm or deny reports that he had seen Tariq Aziz, the Iraqi foreign minister, in Baghdad before the release of all French hostages, said: "The American economy would benefit a lot from a war... Whatever preoccupations are guiding George Bush, these are not European preoccupations."

Meanwhile, David Lange, the former New Zealand prime minister, is on his way to Iraq to plead for the release of around 20 New Zealanders held hostage there.

Michael Howard, page 10



Thanks up: James Baker, US Secretary of State, encouraging troops of the 1st Cavalry Division in the Saudi Arabian desert yesterday. Mr Baker is making a seven-nation tour to talk to key allies on possible military action against Iraq should sanctions fail

Baker sounds out allies on options

FROM MARTIN FLETCHER IN WASHINGTON

JAMES BAKER, the US Secretary of State, yesterday began an eight-day tour of Arab and European nations to sound out America's key allies on possible joint military action against Iraq.

"We've got questions for our coalition partners," he told reporters on his plane. "We'd like to know under what conditions and subject to what constraints they'd be willing to consider certain types of action."

Specific matters on which Mr Baker will be taking the allied pulse include how much longer the trade embargo should be given to work, whether military action should be limited to Kuwait or extend to Iraq as well, and whether the allies would be willing to suffer the high number of casualties he believes would be incurred.

While he is in Saudi Arabia, Mr Baker will also try to resolve the complex issue of who ultimately commands more than 300,000 troops from at least 15 different countries now encamped there. "It's not (yet) a serious command-and-control set-up - it's coalition stuff," one senior Pentagon official said last week.

As such, the tour is designed not

just to bolster the cohesion and resolve of the international coalition against Iraq, but also to ram the point home to President Saddam Hussein that the US is deadly serious about the use of force. In spite of the bellicose statements of President Bush last week, administration officials believe that the Iraqi leader is still not fully convinced that the US has the stomach for a war, and that he will not consider disgorging Kuwait until he is.

Before meeting Bahraini leaders yesterday morning, Mr Baker flew by helicopter to Saudi Arabia to meet some of the American troops there, again underlining to President Saddam that the US military threat is real. The threat of military conflict is "not just words," he said.

During the week Mr Baker will meet representatives of the other four permanent members of the UN Security Council. He said this could lead to a UN resolution specifically authorising the use of force against Iraq, although the US believes it already has the necessary authority. Mr Bush "would like to maintain as much of the international consensus as he can," said Mr Baker.

"The overall purpose of the trip is to discuss with our coalition partners strengthening the full range of measures that we have employed to isolate Saddam Hussein - political measures, economic measures and military measures, and thereby to lay a foundation for the possible future exercise of all options," he said. "This will improve the prospects of a peaceful resolution and at the same time permit us to be prepared to consider all options if peaceful ones don't work."

Israel rejects UN conference call

FROM RICHARD OWEN IN JERUSALEM

ISRAEL should not be judged by the world's "biggest murderers", a cabinet minister said last night as Jerusalem rejected the notion of a conference on the protection of the Palestinians.

"A conference of the Geneva Convention signatories is a conference of states who actively maintain murderous dictatorships," Ehud Olmert, the health minister, said after the weekly cabinet meeting, adding: "The thought that we will be judged by the biggest murderers in the world seems like something we should not agree to."

The cabinet has rejected the suggestion of Señor Javier Pérez de Cuellar, the United Nations secretary-general, that the UN Security Council might convene the signatories of the 1949 Fourth Geneva Convention to consider whether Israel is complying with the convention by protecting the Palestinian population under its control. Señor Pérez de Cuellar put forward the idea in his report at the end of last week on the Temple Mount killings.

The refugee camps of the occupied Gaza Strip at the weekend saw some of the worst violence since the *intifada* began nearly three years ago. Repeated clashes on Saturday and again yesterday left nearly 300 Arabs wounded by live rounds and plastic and rubber bullets, according to UN sources in Gaza. One Arab was shot dead and scores more were wounded by beatings, tear gas and gravel cannons. The Israeli army put the number of wounded at 115. It said many of the injured sustained "light to moderate" wounds and were released from hospital the same day.

But there is no doubting the

ferocity of Palestinian anger, or the toughness of the Israeli response. The riots were provoked by the death late on Friday of a Palestinian being held for interrogation in an Israeli prison in Gaza City.

The Israeli authorities said the man, Abdel Ati Mohamed Zaain, aged 35, had committed suicide by hanging himself on strips torn from his prison blanket. His family refused to allow the authorities to remove his body for burial, insisting on a post-mortem examination today.

Some of the worst clashes were in the village of Beit Hanoun, the home of the dead man, but they spread throughout the Gaza Strip. UN and Palestinian witnesses said that, at Jabaliya and Rafah refugee camps, Arab rioters had been showered with a hail of stones released from "a kind of box" slung beneath helicopters hovering overhead. An army spokesman said he knew nothing of this.

Yesterday, with the credibility gap between Israelis and Palestinians wider than ever in the wake of Temple Mount deaths, hardly a Palestinian could be found who did not believe that Mr Zaain had been tortured and killed while undergoing interrogation. Arab sources recalled that Mr Zaain was the eighth Palestinian to die during interrogation since the *intifada* began, and the fourth to die in the central prison at Gaza.

Nearly a year ago an American doctor called in by Palestinian relatives concluded that an Arab who had died in the Gaza prison had received fatal blows to the stomach during questioning. But the Israeli army yesterday insisted that Mr Zaain had died by his own hand.

Syria to send more troops to the Gulf

Damascus - Confounding speculation that it might backpeddle on promises to send thousands of troops to the Gulf, a Syrian spokesman said yesterday an armoured division was on its way to bolster multinational forces there and that up to 20,000 men and heavy armour were committed to the force.

Rumours in the West about a possible weakening of Syria's commitment to the anti-Iraq alliance began after a strongly worded statement by Damascus on October 24 denouncing the US decision to send additional arms to Israel since the Gulf confrontation began.

Mohamed Salman, Syria's information minister, speaking to members of a visiting British Syrian association, said the sending of the armoured division did not mean that Syria accepted increased US military and economic aid to Israel, but "we are committed to our national pledges to send troops to the Gulf. We will send more troops according to the desire of the Gulf states."

So far only a few thousand lightly-equipped Syrian soldiers have been sent to Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates. The addition of heavy armour will strengthen the anti-Iraq force.

Salman said Syria wanted a peaceful solution in the Gulf but it should be based on Iraq's full and unconditional withdrawal from Kuwait and the restoration of the ousted Kuwaiti government.

He said that Syria, Saudi Arabia and Egypt, which also have stationed troops in the Gulf, were planning joint moves within the next few days to adopt a unified Arab position. (Reuters)

Irgun bomber dies

Yisrael Levy, who led the 1946 bombing of Jerusalem's King David hotel, which housed the British Government Secretariat and army headquarters, killing 91 people, died on Friday aged 64. The blast also injured 109 people. Mr Levy was a member of the Irgun Zvai Leumi, the militant Jewish underground fighting the British for independence in the 1940s under the leadership of Menachem Begin, a future prime minister of Israel. (AP)

Call on Anglicans

Edward Heath yesterday called on the Church of England to intervene in the Gulf confrontation and help set up talks between Iraq and Kuwait. He said the problem must be settled by Arabs. Mr Heath told the BBC's Radio 4 that the House of Bishops of the Church of England should break its silence on the Gulf issue. The bishops have decided not to speak because of the diversity of opinion within their ranks.

Oil gap filled

Riyadh - Saudi Arabia's oil production passed 8.2 million barrels a day last week and is expected to rise to 8.5 million barrels early next year, the highest in a decade, according to Hisham Nazir, the Saudi oil minister, at the weekend. The rise in production, along with increases by other Opec members, means that the estimated loss of 4 million barrels a day from Kuwait and Iraq due to the UN embargo has already been made up. (N77)

'Disarm' demand

Damascus - Syria is insisting that all groups in Beirut except the regular Lebanese army must disarm. Diplomats said a statement announcing the decision, made by Muhammad Salman, the information minister, included Palestinian commandos, who are not yet a party to new security agreements in the capital. The diplomats said Syria would tolerate armed Palestinian groups in south Lebanon so long as Israel retained a buffer strip there. (Reuters)

Iran plea for PoWs

Nicosia - Iran yesterday accused Iraq of holding hundreds of Iranian prisoners of war despite Baghdad's claim that it had freed them all. Hojatoleslam Akbar Abotouabi, Ayatollah Khamenei's representative for prisoner-of-war affairs, said Tehran has submitted a list of 231 Iranians still held in Iraq to the International Committee of the Red Cross. (AP)

King makes peace trip to Europe

FROM CHRISTOPHER WALKER IN AMMAN

KING HUSAIN of Jordan left the Middle East yesterday for meetings with European leaders, expected to include Margaret Thatcher, on the latest leg of his diplomatic mission designed to avert war in the Gulf.

The Jordanian monarch, the main link between Iraq and governments in the multinational alliance arrayed against it, is to meet President Mitterrand in Paris today. British diplomats said he was expected to meet Mrs Thatcher later in Geneva, where she is attending a conference on climate changes.

The Jordan Times reported yesterday that on Saturday the king had received a new message from President Saddam, conveyed to him during talks here with Tariq Aziz, the Iraqi foreign minister. A Jordanian official said the message covered "ways to achieve peace in the region".

Neither Western nor Arab diplomatic sources held much hope for King Husain's single-handed peace mission. In Europe, the king is expected to emphasise Iraq's repeated demand that it be given firm guarantees of non-aggression if it withdraws from Kuwait.

During his talks in Amman, Mr Aziz confirmed the gloomy regional assessment of the chances of reaching a negotiated settlement. He said there was no new element on which to build.

No details of President Saddam's latest message were available, but Mr Aziz again emphasised the linkage between a solution to the Gulf confrontation and that of the Palestinian problem. He accused Britain and America of trying to divert attention from the Israeli occupied territories towards the Gulf.



Silent plea: a woman stands in prayer outside the White House during a protest against the presence of US troops in the Gulf

Key role for special forces

By MICHAEL EVANS, DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT

AS WAR talk increases in Washington, the role special forces will play in any offensive is becoming an increasingly important part of military planning. Both America and Britain are believed to have sent their elite units to the Gulf.

From America they include the Green Berets, Delta Force, the unit modelled on Britain's SAS, and the navy's Seals. Britain has sent SAS squadrons and units of the Royal Marines' Special Boat Squadron.

In the British operation in the South Atlantic in 1982, both SAS and SBS units were infiltrated into South Georgia and the Falkland Islands before the main landing forces arrived. But, sources insisted yesterday, there was no

question of sending undercover units into Kuwait or Iraq at this stage, since no political decision had been made about mounting an offensive. The risks would be too great. If the Iraqis discovered an undercover team, it would enable Saddam Hussein to claim that he was the victim of an act of aggression.

However, if the allied forces did move against the Iraqis, units of special forces would be among the first ground troops to enter enemy territory. Their mission would be to infiltrate behind the lines to disrupt the Iraqi command structure at the same time as gathering intelligence and reconnaissance. Green Berets and American navy commandos, as well as the SAS,

would be involved in destroying communications as a way of causing confusion in the Iraqi chain of command. A military expert said: "The special operations would be aimed at leaving Iraqi troops running around like headless chickens. Killing the generals and disrupting the chain of command would be top priorities."

It is believed that special forces units with electronic jamming equipment are operating near the Kuwaiti border already. In a war this equipment would be used to block radar signals and hamper Iraqi aircraft. American special forces are also reported to be conducting weapons training with some of the Arab troops.

Desert sands hold surprises for straying French soldiers

FROM REUTERS IN SAUDI ARABIA

THE desert between Iraqi troops and the multinational force in Saudi Arabia is not as empty as it looks. Soldiers patrol deep into the desolate no man's land and Bedouin nomads roam between the armies, some of them apparently with other concerns than tending their sheep and camels.

Three French soldiers were detained by Iraqi troops last Monday after apparently straying across the border to reconnoitre the featureless terrain they may have to fight on.

Their detention and handover to the French embassy in Baghdad were disclosed only on Saturday to the 5,500 French troops stationed in northeastern Saudi Arabia. The three soldiers arrived home yesterday after being freed by Baghdad, airport officials said in Paris. The three men arrived in Paris on a scheduled flight from Amman

and were whisked away from the airport, avoiding journalists. The incident embarrassed Paris when Iraq revealed it on Friday and then said it was freeing them in appreciation of a special relationship with France. The three, a captain and two non-commissioned officers, were in a Jeep on a reconnaissance patrol when they bumped into Iraqi troops. No shots were fired, the French army said. Iraq handed over the men, the Jeep, equipment and weapons to the French embassy in Baghdad the day after the incident. They were flown to Amman on Saturday.

Their commander, Brigadier-General Jean-Pierre Mouscardes, barred reporters from questioning soldiers about the embarrassing incident. Officers of the French 1st Spahi tank regiment earlier told reporters they had been on patrols deep into no

man's land, venturing within a few kilometres of the Iraqi border. On such patrols, they often came across Bedouins who now drive Japanese pick-up trucks rather than ride camels. But some nomads carried binoculars and sophisticated cameras superfluous to their traditional trade.

"We saw Bedouin tents with 50 ft antennae sticking out," Captain Marc Randon, a squadron leader, said. "On one patrol, we stopped a Bedouin with huge binoculars and a large gun holster under his djellaba," he said.

The man, surrounded by French soldiers armed with assault rifles, made no attempt to escape. They let him go. Another officer said his men last month detained three Bedouins who wandered around the French camp, and handed them over to the Saudi military. He said they turned out to be Saudi security

men checking out the Bedouins for Iraqi intelligence agents. Other encounters were more friendly. Tank crews sometimes stopped for the ritual cup of tea in Bedouin tents.

Bedouins ignore borders and make out if they were Saudis or Iraqis, genuine nomads or spies. "Some of them come to our camp just because they lost their way," he said.

He was surprised at their resilience in the face of constant movement of armour and soldiers and the threat of a destructive war. "They seem not to give a damn, and they go on living on the most dangerous border in the world," he said.

One of his men saw them as a reassuring presence. "As long as they are here we know it'll be all right. But they suddenly disappear..." French troops troops

here have also suffered a culinary setback. The French army usually feasts on fancier food than most of the world's fighting men. But its soldiers are on harder rations than usual in the desert trenches of Saudi Arabia.

The Muslim ban on pork has meant a drastic rewriting of the French military menu, costing France a clear gastronomic lead in the multinational force ranged against Iraq.

French soldiers' standard *Rations de Combat* have 15 different menus, three more than the American Meals Ready to Eat (MRE) and the British equivalent. Pork has been removed from rations sent to the French troops in Saudi Arabia, cutting the number of their menus to five.

US and British military sources said pork could not be cut from their rations sealed in

plastic bags. But the French are hard at work to maintain their reputation for fine cuisine.

While US troops munch crackers and packaged bread, the French have brought in an army baker to produce hundreds of their distinctive long loaves of crusty bread daily. They drive regularly from their desert positions to the town of Haifa al-Batin to shop for fresh fruit and vegetables.

One squad in the 1st Spahi armoured regiment is watering a small square of sand which it plans to turn into an oasis-like potato garden. In time, they will have a steady supply of French fries. If the conflict lasts long enough, it will be chips with nearly everything. Amateur cooks already take turns in each squad, sizzling onions and mixing condiments to try to improve the bill of fare.

Senate race of the two Toms may be decided by a whisker

EVER since that obscure Georgia peanut farmer Jimmy Carter breezed into the White House after Democrats in Iowa unexpectedly chose him as their 1976 presidential candidate, American politicians have treated the geographical heart of their country with pragmatic respect. For politicians, the voting patterns of a region known to generations of American schoolchildren as an expanse of griddle-flat cornfields settled by Germans and Scandinavians in the 1800s are gripping in their very ordinariness.

This year's race for a Senate seat between Tom Harkin, a former navy fighter pilot who boasts a hell-raising brand of populism, and Tom Tauke, his milder-mannered Republican rival, is no exception. The contest, dubbed the "battle of the two Toms", is

among the closest in the country although the two could hardly be more different. So far apart are they on issues ranging from abortion to farm subsidies that Mr Harkin has taken to joking that the one thing they agree on is probably daylight saving time.

Mr Harkin, who grew up in a tiny rural town, has been in office for the past six years and has the edge in opinion polls. He has built his career on a "little guy versus the rich guy" message despite owning a holiday home in the Bahamas.

Against him, however, is history: Iowa has never re-elected a Democratic Senator. In addition the state has a tendency to vote Republican at a time of farm prosperity despite recession in other areas of the country. Furthermore, Iowa's farmers,

On the eve of the American mid-term elections, Susan Ellicott finds the voters of Iowa most troubled by the standing of President Bush after his budget wrangle

meat packers, small-town storekeepers and machine-tool factory workers are notorious floating voters. The state was represented in the Senate by conservative Republicans through most of the 1980s and by liberal Democrats through most of the 1970s.

Political analysts point out that Mr Harkin could be vulnerable because he did not so much win the 1984 race as Roger Jepsen, his Republican opponent, lost it by making himself a laughing stock, mainly by arguing that his position entitled him to drive to work

alone in a lane reserved for cars with four passengers. He also tried to justify a trip to a massage parlour by claiming he thought it was a health spa.

"Iowans are very broad-minded about pornography and such things," said Lyle Scheelhaase, a grain and livestock farmer and Harkin supporter from the western prairie town of Moline, "but they cannot forgive arrogance."

Besides, he added, with the self-effacement of someone used to being told he lives in the middle of nowhere, "who cares if you're a

senator from Iowa?" President Bush certainly does. If Mr Harkin and several other Democratic incumbents lose their seats tomorrow, Republicans could conceivably take control of the Senate before the end of the century. Mr Bush, like his aspiring Democratic challengers in 1992, is anxious to see if the country's political weathercock points to left or right. The Iowa vote could be especially significant in the wake of the bitter wrangle in Washington over the package to cut the soaring federal budget deficit.

Supporting Mr Tauke, aged 40, at Sioux City's spanking new convention centre last week, Mr Bush told voters that Mr Harkin, aged 50, had opposed him more often than any other majority member of Congress. But there was an awkward moment for the

challenger when Mr Bush, expressing delight at "standing here with a US Senator who supports me", turned to Charles Grassley, whose term on Capitol Hill expires in 1992, before going on to endorse Mr Tauke. Republican fund-raisers shuffled out into the chilly evening wondering if this was a slight in retaliation for their candidate's vote against the budget bill sought by Mr Bush a month earlier.

To the horror of easily offended Iowans, the candidates have turned to negative commercials in the home stretch. Mr Tauke, advised by political consultants to take a more combative stab at the incumbent, launched television commercials painting Mr Harkin as the champion of higher taxes and higher spending: the standard anti-Democrat war-cry. In re-

sponse, Mr Harkin is running the slogan "Tauke for the rich; Harkin for fairness."

As David Yepsen, a veteran political writer for *The Des Moines Register*, observed: "By the standards of dirty tactics set in Texas, North Carolina and California, this is a church picnic." But a strong Lutheran tradition prevails in the so-called Hawkeye state. Iowans are among the most politically informed of Americans but, descended from northern Europeans seeking to avoid war, they are also unusually dovish, frugal and opposed to mud-slinging, and they share the growing national intolerance for modern electioneering. "People are just sick of it," said Jackie Kolb, an office manager.

Leading article, page 11

Bucharest rally urged to send volunteers to help Moldavia

By MARY DEJEVSKY IN MOSCOW AND OUR FOREIGN STAFF

AS THE Soviet authorities reported "stability" in the troubled areas of Soviet Moldavia yesterday, chanting demonstrators in Bucharest called for the region's return to Romanian control.

The protesters marched from Bucharest's Liberty Park towards the Soviet embassy in support of Moldavia's ethnic Romanian majority. The organisers urged the cheering throng to sign up for volunteer units to help the Moldavian Romanians.

The demonstration was staged by the opposition Free Democratic Party and an association promoting ethnic and cultural rights of Romanians in the former Romanian territories of Bukovina and Bessarabia, annexed under the 1940 Nazi-Soviet pact. At least six people are believed to have died in clashes in Moldavia at the weekend.

"We ask for the formation of volunteer units to protect Mol-

davia's integrity," Gheorghe Ciavila Copil, president of a cultural group linking Bucharest with the Moldavian capital, Kishinev, told the crowd. "However, the volunteer units will not cross the border unless our help is asked by our brothers across the border."

The crowd, waving Romanian flags, shouted: "Bessarabia is part of Romania. The Moldavians are our blood brothers. We'll never leave them alone."

Protesters accused President Ion Iliescu, a Moscow-educated ex-communist, of having a secret agreement with President Gorbachev not to reopen the Moldavian question. Brandishing old maps showing Bessarabia as Romanian territory, demonstrators chanted, "Down with the Russian jackboot" and "Down with the Molotov-Gorbachev-Iliescu pact".

"The government should have taken a more decisive stand on this issue. But they (the government) are performing a very dangerous slalom," said protesting Romanian actor Ion Caramitru. "I'm sure that Bessarabia is part of a script like the Baltic countries. The Russians never intended to disrupt their empire politically, but only economically," Mr Caramitru told Reuters news agency.

Moscow ceremony for new cathedral

By MARY DEJEVSKY

THE Russian Orthodox Church and Soviet state converged in a corner of Red Square yesterday, at a ceremony to lay the foundation stone for Moscow's first new cathedral since the Bolshevik revolution. As dusk gathered, an ecclesiastical procession of blue-robed priests, bearing gold staffs and bejewelled icons, moved slowly across the square from the newly reconsecrated Cathedral of St Basil.

Led by Aleksii, Patriarch of Moscow and All Russia, the procession concluded with a large portrait of the last Tsar, Nicholas II, the black, white and gold imperial flag, and banners of the imperial regiments, borne aloft by young men in uniforms of the imperial army. After passing the GUM department store, festooned with a vast red and white image of Lenin in preparation for Wednesday's anniversary of the revolution, they came to a halt beside the Historical Museum and opposite the mausoleum of Lenin.

A two-hour service was relayed to several hundred onlookers, made restive by police who easily outnumbered those admitted to the ceremony. The cathedral, for which the money has been raised by voluntary contributions, replaces the Kazan cathedral which stood on the same site until its destruction by Stalin in 1936.

At yesterday's service, a festival of lavish ritual and religious renewal, the chant set for such occasions resounded poignantly across Red Square: "Oh Lord, save Thy people and bless Thine inheritance."

The campaign for the rebuilding of the cathedral began in the early 1980s, and two years ago a fundraising committee was set up. Yesterday, the day of the original cathedral's patronal icon, Our Lady of Kazan, the ceremony ended with an antiphonal rendering of "Many years," the song traditionally sung on feast days.

The Dniester and Gagauz regions of Soviet Moldavia were both reported by the official Soviet news agency Tass to have "stabilised" yesterday, after clashes in the Dniester region resulted in six deaths. The local authorities in the Dniester region declared a state of emergency on Friday after learning that detachments of ethnic Romanian volunteers had arrived in the region. A subsequent armed clash resulted in the six deaths and dozens of injured. Over the weekend, President Gorbachev received Moldavian leaders and told them that he opposed any break-up of the republic along ethnic lines. At the same time, he demanded that all volunteer detachments be disbanded forthwith. The Moldavian prime minister, Mircea Druk, yesterday conveyed Mr Gorbachev's words to the republic's parliament as support for the republic's leadership. But other reports said that Mr Gorbachev had called for the prime minister's resignation.

The Soviet prime minister, Nikolai Ryzhkov, blamed the Moldavian leaders. "Responsibility for what is happening lies on the shoulders of the Moldavian leaders. If they do not take steps to bring about a drastic improvement in the situation, we will take more resolute measures," he said. Mr Gorbachev's stance on Moldavia was attacked by a meeting of Interfront leaders in Moscow at the weekend. The Interfront organisations are groups established to defend the interests of Russians in areas dominated by other nationalities and are believed to enjoy strong support from the military.

The violence in Moldavia, where Mr Gorbachev appeared to support the Moldavian authorities against a predominantly Russian area which had tried to declare itself independent, led Interfront leaders to accuse him of "sanctioning civil war" in the republic.



Women triumphant: an ecstatic Gro Harlem Brundtland, Norway's Labour prime minister for the third time since 1981, receiving a hug of congratulation from a well-wisher outside the royal palace after announcing her new government. Altogether nine of the 19 new ministers are women, in keeping with a policy of sexual equality that Mrs Brundtland pioneered in her Cabinet of

1986 (Tony Samstag writes from Oslo). A popular appointment is that of Mrs Asne Kvam, aged 41, a show-business personality, as Minister of Culture. She started out as a singer of riter, a unique Nordic form of ballad, but is best known outside Norway as the television hostess of the 1986 Eurovision Song Contest. Mrs Brundtland, aged 51, has inadvertently damaged the Nordic

reputation as global philanthropists, by reappointing Thorvald Stoltenberg as her foreign minister. Last year Mr Stoltenberg, aged 59, took over as United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and rejoining the government means he has left his post after just ten months, giving up what many consider one of the most important jobs in the world for a parochial political career.

Musical stage star Mary Martin dies

By JOHN YOUNG

MARY Martin, the girl who vowed to "wash that man right out of my hair" in the musical *South Pacific*, died yesterday at her home in Rancho Mirage, California, aged 76.

One of the most enchanting stars of the 20th Century musical stage and screen, she first won attention when she sang "My Heart Belongs to Daddy" in Cole Porter's *Let's Make a Man of You* on Broadway in 1938.

She accompanied the song with a striptease which by today's standards would scarcely set the boards alight but which at the time was a show-stopper.

During the 1940s she appeared in a number of films including *Birth of the Blues*, but most of them did badly at the box office



Martin: vivacious star of the musical *South Pacific*

and she never really took to the screen. Her renaissance came when she played Peter Pan on Broadway, which was later immortalised on television and for which she won several awards. After her success as Nellie Forbush in *South Pacific*, Richard Rogers and Oscar Hammerstein wrote *The Sound of Music* expressly with her in mind in the starring role of the irrepressible postulant, Maria, the stage role she played for three years.

She returned to Broadway in 1978 in a show called *Do You Turn Somersaults*, which disappeared without trace after only two weeks. For the next two years she hosted a television series for those whom the Americans call senior citizens, but was badly injured in a car crash in 1982, in which her manager, Ben Washer, was killed.

Her final show, *Legends!*, in which she co-starred with Carol Channing, never reached Broadway. "It's the one show I didn't like," she said. "I did it because Larry said to me: 'Mother, you've been off long enough'." - Larry, being her son Larry Hagman, familiar to millions as J. R. Ewing in *Dallas*. Gayle Hunnicutt, who appears with Larry Hagman in *Dallas*, said last night that her aunt had taught ballroom dancing with Miss Martin when they were girls in Texas some 60 years ago.

Miss Martin underwent surgery for cancer of the colon earlier this year and was readmitted to hospital last Monday.

Leipzig police kill football riot youth

From ANNE McELVOY IN BERLIN

POLICE in Leipzig shot dead one man and wounded three when a football match ended in the worst violence so far on former East German territory.

The dead man, an 18-year-old Berliner, was shot in the stomach and died later of his injuries. Another is critically ill after being hit in the body and legs.

Eighty supporters were arrested after the rioting in which a police car was set on fire and shops were attacked and plundered throughout the city centre. It is the third time this year that police in Leipzig have shot at rioters but this is the first death due to football violence in eastern Germany.

Peter Heimann, a police spokesman, defended the shooting, saying that it was caused by "an extremely violent situation in which, if the police had not used weapons, there would also have been dead policemen". But he admitted that officers had been ill-equipped to face large scale outbreaks of violence and that lack of experience in crowd control had been a significant factor in the outbreak of shooting.

"We are still working with outdated equipment which is not suitable for containing with serious rioting," he said. "Officers used their guns because they feared for their lives."

Fighting with the police broke out when fans from FC Berlin arrived for the match with FC Saxony and began smashing shop windows and overturning street

stalls. Other supporters ran riot attacking cars and police with bricks and cudgels. Early warning shots fired into the air as well as tear-gas and truncheons had failed to disperse the rioters. Herr Heimann said that in the confusion several officers were shooting at once and that it had not yet been possible to identify the policeman responsible for the death.

Football violence and rioting have increased since the opening of the German border a year ago. In Berlin the western police authorities have taken over responsibility for riot policing, but in the five regions of the old east Germany organisation of civil law and order remains in the hands of local police forces.

The New Forum group in Leipzig called for an urgent enquiry into the efficiency of the city's policing. The police have been criticised for having a violent approach to crowd control.

Football hooliganism, formerly kept in check by the repressive internal security of the communist regime, is now a frequent occurrence in the eastern German cities of Leipzig, Dresden and Berlin. Extreme right-wing groups who were strictly forbidden to organise publicly while the communists were in power, now use football grounds for recruiting disaffected young east Germans. Many western neo-Nazi organisations have also expanded into the east in the last year to capitalise on the high unemployment and resurgence of racism.

Scientists agree on greenhouse danger

Geneva - A firm consensus on the inevitability of global warming with consequences "unprecedented in the past 10,000 years" unless nations take steps now to reduce emissions of greenhouse gases was reached yesterday by more than 700 scientists at the Second World Climate Conference (Alan McGregor writes).

Their recommendations after a week's deliberations were immediately put before government officials drafting a declaration to be approved by heads of state and ministers in the final stage of the conference ending on Wednesday. Margaret Thatcher is to address it tomorrow.

The declaration is intended to add impetus to negotiations for a convention on global climate change scheduled to begin in Washington in February. The aim is to have a treaty ready to be signed at the 1992 world environment conference in Brazil.

The scientists said that if measures to curb emissions of greenhouse gases (chiefly carbon dioxide) were not started immediately, the world would become two to five degrees centigrade hotter during the next century. Climate change and rising sea levels would seriously threaten low-lying areas, water resources, agriculture, forests and fisheries.

The conference underlined the need for more research and monitoring of climate change.

Boycott over

Islamabad - Pakistan's ousted prime minister, Benazir Bhutto, badly beaten in last month's elections, formally took over as parliamentary opposition leader yesterday, ending a boycott of the assembly over the arrest of her husband. She and other deputies of her Pakistan People's party ended their boycott after her husband, Asif Ali Zardari, was brought to the parliament to take his oath as an elected member. (Reuters)

Rebel campaign

Colombo - Sixty thousand people have "disappeared" in southern Sri Lanka since 1987, when security forces responded to a campaign of terror by left-wing rebels, according to an estimate by a European human rights team of two British Labour MPs and two lawyers. They said that possibly scores of people were still vanishing each week, despite a government claim that the threat from the People's Liberation Front is over. (Reuters)

Sudeten problem

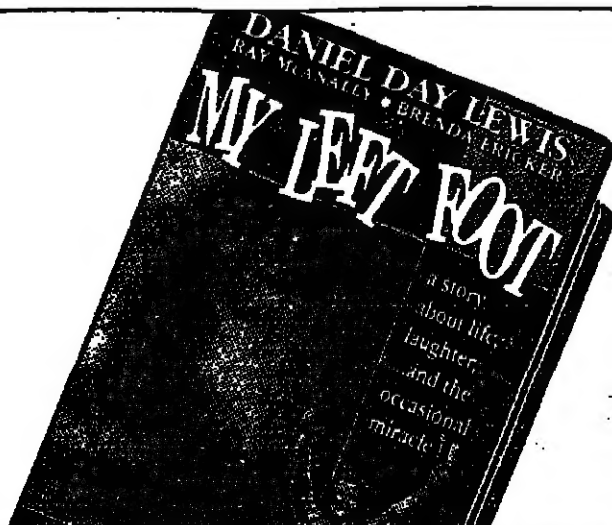
Prague - Germany and Czechoslovakia are to discuss the fate of property belonging to the 3 million Sudeten Germans expelled from Czechoslovakia's western border lands, Hans-Dietrich Genscher, the German foreign minister, said during a one-day visit to Prague last week. However, he said the Sudeten German question might not be included in a new treaty of co-operation to be signed with Czechoslovakia.

Pincher pinched

Tulsa, Oklahoma - A man was sentenced to 10 years in prison for pinching two women on their buttocks. Randy Darrell Bowles, aged 36, was sentenced to two consecutive five-year terms for sexual battery, now a felony in the state. He was accused of grabbing a woman and saying "twink". She hit Bowles on the head with her umbrella, and he walked away. He was arrested after another woman screamed and told police he pinched her. (AP)

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Mozambique casts aside 15 years of marxist socialism

FROM JAN RAATH IN MAPUTO

MOZAMBIQUE'S 15-year experiment with marxist socialism ended at the weekend when the People's Assembly voted unanimously for the People's Republic of Mozambique to become the Republic of Mozambique.

Marcelino dos Santos, the speaker of the assembly, bravely led a revolutionary song denouncing the bourgeoisie as he closed this extraordinary session of the parliament late on Saturday here.

It was hardly an appropriate verse after the six-week debate introducing a new constitution that has erased the legacy of Marx and Lenin — their portraits on public buildings have been whitewashed over.

Mozambique has done far more than join the growing list of African nations following in the shadow of Eastern Europe and eschewing entanglement and often corrupt one-party rule. From November 30, when the constitution becomes law, Mozambicans will be protected by a bill of rights that covers issues from the right to legal advice immediately after arrest and habeas corpus, to press freedom and the abolition of the death penalty.

Apparently, to ensure continued American and other Western support for its programme to deal with the destruction caused by 14 years of guerrilla war, the document asserts that economic policy will be determined by "market forces".

The new constitution will not entail peace of mind for the harassed illicit traders squatting behind stacks of South African canned beer and coarse cigarettes under the shade of flamboyant trees

on the Avenida Patrice Lumumba, or anyone else falling foul of the authorities.

The justice ministry, the agency entrusted with implementing the reforms, has an infrastructure characterised by judges who are paid the equivalent of £80 a month.

"The gap between the new laws and the reality is immense," said a Western diplomat. "It's going to take a very, very long time before ordinary people are affected."

The reforms do directly affect Afonso Dhlakama, leader of the rebel Renamo movement, the loosely-organised army established by the Rhodesian security forces in the mid-1970s and until recently run by South Africa's intelligence services. The People's Assembly's adoption of the constitution has met in full Renamo's rationale for taking up arms.

"There is no longer any pretext for anyone to continue the violence," President Chissano said when he wound up the debate on Saturday. A Mozambican government delegation is due to meet its Renamo counterpart in Rome this week for a third round of direct peace talks, sponsored by the Vatican and the Italian government.

President Chissano is desperate for progress but Mr Dhlakama shows increasing reluctance. This round was due to have been held in September, but the Renamo delegation did not arrive. The second round began only after the Frelimo delegation had been kicking its heels in Rome for 10 days.

With Renamo's demands for an end to the one-party state, free elections and a

market economy addressed, the Frelimo government believes the only issues to be dealt with by negotiations are practical matters such as establishing a ceasefire and amalgamating the Renamo army into the regular forces.

But Mr Dhlakama, evidently doubtful of his chances of success in an election, has continued to deliver new demands, frustrating Maputo and holding peace hostage while he seeks an advantage in a game in which he has been out-manoeuvred by Mr Chissano.

After a series of military setbacks throughout the country — in the central Manica province where Zimbabwean assault troops have forced him to abandon his old base in the Gorongosa mountains, and in Zambezia where extensive sweeps by the Frelimo army have allowed much of the province to resume some normality — Mr Dhlakama appears more disadvantaged than ever. If the Renamo delegation arrives in Rome this week, it may mean the start of real negotiations towards ending the war.



Pulling power: traditionally-clad women from Rajasthan in India showing their winning form at the Pushkar cattle fair in a tug-of-war against teams from other states. More than 100,000 desert people attended the fair

Hindus call off siege of mosque

FROM CHRISTOPHER THOMAS IN DELHI

INDIA'S tottering government voted unanimously yesterday to stand by V. P. Singh, the beleaguered prime minister, who is heading for defeat in a parliamentary vote of confidence this week. The collapse of the government is now inevitable unless there is a radical, last-minute political realignment.

MPs from five parties making up the National Front coalition expressed full confidence in Mr Singh, whose administration has been battered by caste and Hindu-Muslim violence. The move came as Hindu extremists called off a bloody five-day siege of the Babri Masjid (mosque) in the holy city of Ayodhya, which they claim occupies the birthplace of Rama, the god-king. The minor damage inflicted on the building represented "a symbolic start" to its demolition.

The government ruled out the formation of a national government or any political arrangement with the opposition Congress (I) party. But anti-Singh rebels are determined to split Janata Dal and throw their support behind a possible challenge by Rajiv Gandhi.

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Poll jolt for Kaifu on troops abroad

FROM JOE JOSEPH IN TOKYO

AN embarrassingly narrow victory by Japan's ruling Liberal Democrats in a by-election yesterday has allowed the government to save some face but will not salvage its unpopular plan to send troops abroad. It now seems almost certain that Japanese soldiers, who have been kept at home since the second world war, will stay in their barracks.

Thunderstorms kept the turnout low, tilting the balance in the government's favour in a ruling party stronghold but failing to give Toshiki Kaifu, the prime minister, the resounding mandate he was seeking in yesterday's upper-house election in his own constituency in Aichi, central Japan.

At best, the close result has probably given Mr Kaifu, whose grip on the prime minister's job seems to be loosening rapidly, a brief stay of execution. Yoshihisa Oshima, the Liberal Democratic candidate, picked up 833,371 votes, only about 40,000 more than his socialist

rival. Mr Kaifu has acknowledged that he faces almost certain defeat for his bill to send troops to the Gulf or anywhere else, even in non-combat roles.

The fate of the legislation was sealed last week when Shin Kanemaru, an influential power-broker in the ruling party and a keen judge of what the Japanese public will swallow, publicly and bluntly urged the government to find a different way for Japan to meet its responsibilities in the Gulf without vexing its Asian neighbours.

"How about thinking of something on the lines of not sending the self-defence forces?" he asked. Looking for a graceful exit, Mr Kaifu has offered to thrash out a compromise with opposition parties to get an amended proposal through parliament before the current session ends on November 10. Opposition parties, which control the upper house and know the public is on their side, have rejected the idea.

But the government is wary of abandoning the bill. Ichiro Ozawa, the Liberal Democrats' secretary-general, said yesterday that he would like at least to pass it in the lower house, which is controlled by the party, to prove to Tokyo's allies that Japan was not sitting on its hands.

But Ryutaro Hashimoto, the finance minister, has made it clear that the bill's failure would not persuade Japan to dig deeper into its pockets. He said he had no plans to increase the \$4 billion (£2 billion) that Tokyo had pledged to support the American-led forces in the Gulf and to help countries hurt by the sanctions imposed on Iraq.



Kaifu: grip on prime minister's job is loosening

Anger over Japanese killing of dolphins

By JOE JOSEPH

TOKYO has again angered wildlife protection groups after islanders in southwest Japan clubbed to death and ate hundreds of dolphins driven on to the beach by local fishermen.

Local police said that fishermen on the island of Fukuejima, in the East China Sea off Nagasaki, chased a school of 3,000 dolphins towards the shore at the weekend. Witnesses said at least 580 dolphins were forced on to the beach and beaten to death. Villagers, who say they eat dolphin meat because they cannot afford beef or pork, converged on the beach brandishing axes and saws. After the islanders had taken what meat they could carry, the carcasses were buried on the beach.

World environmental groups have protested about similar incidents before and have criticised Tokyo recently

about the growing number of dolphins and porpoises being caught in Japanese waters. The killings have grown considerably since 1988, when Tokyo reluctantly agreed to join the International Whaling Commission's ban on commercial whaling, and some species are now threatened with extinction.

Dolphin meat, falsely labelled as whale, is turning up at Japanese fish markets, where dwindling supplies have made whale meat, a cheap substitute for beef in the deprived postwar years, a luxury. Wildlife groups want the International Whaling Commission to add dolphins and porpoises to its list of endangered mammals.

The local Nagasaki government designates as dolphins harmful because they eat yellowtail and cuttlefish, both big sources of income for local fishermen.

Backbenchers will decide

Ronald Butt

If Mrs Thatcher's leadership of the Conservative party is to be put to the vote, it should be by a realistic candidate, not a symbolic "stalking-horse". Yet those potentially qualified to take her place are either tied down by being in the cabinet or are inhibited by the political risks of striking prematurely and unsuccessfully.

Of course, it is not the case that those who strike the first blow never inherit power. Stanley Baldwin and Mrs Thatcher herself both did so from a relatively lowly position in the political hierarchy. But both had a clear issue on which to make a case. Baldwin fought for the independence of the Tory party from the Lloyd George entanglement; Mrs Thatcher for the reversal of corporatism and the revival of free-market principles.

The difficulty for any challenger now, however, is that there is no clearly formulated proposition or set of attitudes on which the Tory party can divide and vote. Policy on Europe has been the catalyst precipitating the present situation yet there is no firm dividing line separating Mrs Thatcher's position from that of her critics. The heart of the matter is her combative and idiosyncratic style that does not suffer colleagues gladly — and that, of course, extends well beyond the matter of Europe.

She has never run a cabinet as cabinets have been run in the past. It is impossible to imagine, say, Macmillan, Baldwin or Attlee — or even the dominant Churchill — putting down colleagues in cabinet as Mrs Thatcher has done (for one thing, no man would stand it from another man). At a time of great stress in 1940, Clementine Churchill wrote affectionately to her husband saying she had heard that colleagues might come to dislike him because of a new overbearing manner that was out of character. Recommending "urbanity, kindness and, if possible, Olympic calm" she concluded: "besides, you won't get the best results by irascibility and rudeness. They will breed either dislike or a slave mentality."

Mrs Thatcher's courage has achieved great things for Britain. She has changed the whole political climate, forcing even Labour to reform itself. But the need to override cabinet colleagues in the early days bred in her an overwhelming sense of being right and the refusal to listen to public reactions. Hence the poll tax. Hence the semi-public and confidence-damaging feud with Nigel Lawson over interest and exchange rates that should have been settled in the cabinet. Hence also the insensitivity to concern about the public services. All criticism was simply dismissed as wet.

In the matter of Europe, her abrasive style is even more alarming because it is liable to damage the cause for which the fight which is also the cause of the British majority: namely, that whatever is done about monetary

union should not lead to European federalism.

If there is that risk, we shall not evade it by being rude and staying effectively outside the constructive argument — unless, of course, we pull out of the Community altogether, which is hardly possible even though Mrs Thatcher cites Switzerland as a model. The danger of her technique is that she shall be inside but unheard.

The charge against her is that she feels but does not think ahead. It was she, after all, who agreed to majority voting in the Community as a gesture after Britain got its money back in the budget negotiations. From this flowed the single market and new steam behind economic union. It was also she who refused to enter the exchange rate mechanism at a stage when we could have influenced the shape of developing monetary union, but has since agreed to join too late, denouncing with counter-productive bombast what has been going on to determine the next stage. As a consequence, the public is wholly confused about where we stand.

There is likewise confusion about the precise goals of Mrs Thatcher's critics. Sir Geoffrey Howe has said he is not a federalist. Nor, to the best of my belief, are Douglas Hurd and John Major. They do, however, want coherent British participation in shaping the future. Michael Heseltine, however, does appear to be a federalist, occupying a position that has little support in the Tory party or the country. All this confuses the real issue.

There is no remedy for this country's difficulties in the kind of cosmetics that Sir Leon Brittan advocates, such as having courage with the sterling value on one side and the ecu value on the other. Nor can we afford, as he does, to dismiss the legal power of Parliament as "theoretical". Cajoling the British people towards a camouflaged destination is not the right way.

What has to be determined is whether it is possible to have a central bank and single currency independent of political control in the manner of the Bundesbank, which manages the currency on non-inflammatory principles but leaves the German government free to manage its own politics within that framework. Can it be done without undermining democratic accountability to national parliaments and without creating a cumbersome confederation that would eventually burst apart?

The imbrolio created by Mrs Thatcher and her hindrance of any coherent British plan for the Community's future is the heart of the conflict. If she cannot quickly get a grasp on the style and substance of policy, the Tory party in Parliament, by virtue of whose majority she occupies No 10, can hardly avoid the responsibility of letting her know it is time for a change.

...and moreover

MATTHEW PARRIS

There is somebody at the root of all this: somebody is stirring things up. Mrs Thatcher is in deep trouble, yet nobody will quite declare themselves against her. It is clear that a hidden hand has been working, ruthlessly, towards her downfall.

Now we know who it is. It is the chairman of Michael Heseltine's local Conservative association. This hitherto obscure person in Henley, like the mysterious "control" to whom a spy answers, has been pulling the strings.

Over the weekend just past a final decision was made, down at the HQ in Henley. Mr Heseltine should break cover and mount an open challenge to the prime minister's authority. This was to be done through a letter from Mr Heseltine to his constituency chairman. The rest is history.

Yet still they will not name him. I have listened to bulletin after bulletin and each time it is the same. "In a letter to his constituency chairman..."

"Yes?" we cry, on the edge of our seats. "Yes, who is this man? Are we at last to know?"

"Mr Heseltine said that there was a need..."

Disappointed again. The most intriguing question of all remains unanswered. And I wonder why. Could it be that the world at large is already familiar with this larger-than-life personality in Henley and that my not knowing him is simply an unfortunate gap in my own experience? Or could it be that while those who count are already informed, you and I are not in the "need to know" category? After all, the security threat to the constituency chairman must be immense, and they are probably on red alert all the way up the Thames from Wargrave to Wallingford.

Another priority must be to protect the chairman from packs of media hounds, hungry not only to know his next move, but his opinions — and those of other office holders (such as the treasurer and secretary) of the Henley Conservative association — on great matters other than those on which he and Mr Heseltine are corresponding just at the moment.

How does Mr Heseltine's

constituency chairman feel about the Gulf? Where does his constituency treasurer stand on the American budget crisis? How does the honorary secretary feel about the Bishop of Durham? And what are the committee's views on a national dog registration scheme? Sooner or later the answers to all these questions will emerge, but almost certainly through the quaint medium of correspondence with the Member of Parliament. That is the way we do things here; it is very British.

It makes you wonder, though, who were the background forces physically controlling other personalities in history. Mr Heseltine has been uncommonly frank in acknowledging the role and existence, if not the identity, of his political mentor at Henley; but who did Disraeli "write" to all that "One Nation" stuff appeared under the guise of a direct statement to the electorate, which is surely a rather indirect method of contacting the Beaconsfield Conservative association. And how much more highly should we think of Martin Luther if, instead of choosing the cravenly anonymous ploy of nailing his 95 theses to the church door of Wittenberg, he had written to the verge.

Moses, a modest chap, falls more into the Michael Heseltine school of political communication. He never claimed sole authorship of the sorts of life he presented to us on those tablets of stone, and his instructions to the Israelites concerning the flight from Egypt were conveyed in the form of a direct dialogue with the chairman of his own personal conservative association, who appeared in a burning bush: something the Henley association chairman might try.

Henley's place in history is now assured. It must be galling to the shade of the man who in 1939 was chairman of the Edgbaston Conservative association. By some oversight his MP, Mr Chamberlain, declared war by means other than a letter to Edgbaston. Should it again come to war, Saddam Hussein can do better. "In a letter to the chairman of his Baghdad Bath association, Saddam Hussein today..."

Michael Howard believes the longer an attack is delayed, the stronger Saddam's hand will be

On balance, Bush must go to war

This week the American congressional elections will be over, and after a bruising two months of domestic rancour President Bush will be able to turn his undivided attention to the Gulf. The time for a decision is clearly approaching.

There are many excellent reasons why the United States should not attack Iraq. To do so, barring some improbable provocation by Saddam Hussein, would hopelessly divide the United Nations. The war could not therefore be depicted as a police action by the international community against a transgressor under the "new world order" so hopefully proclaimed by President Bush. It would simply be the use of force in a traditional fashion to protect American and allied interests in the region. Its aims would be the preservation of a stable political balance, the protection of friendly powers, the pre-emption of a hostile hegemony, and the assurance of continued access on reasonable terms to oil resources vital to the western economies.

These are perfectly valid reasons for going to war, but they are hardly enough to command the unanimous support of the global community — certainly not in the Third World. They would not be

universally accepted as adequate reasons for war even within our own societies. Significant elements of the American and British peoples today demand a higher moral justification for killing people, and a conflict fought without the blessing of the UN could be deeply divisive.

But such a war would need all the domestic support it could get. It is likely that a very large number of people would be killed. The Americans, if not the British, agonise over the loss of a single soldier; and they may lose many thousands, many of them to chemical weapons. Iraqi losses would inevitably include large numbers of women and children, whose agonies would be flashed on every television screen in the world. The hostages could expect no mercy. The Saudis would be targeted by Iraqi missiles, Egypt by Iraqi terrorism. It could be a bloody and prolonged business with major repercussions for the global economy. In its aftermath America would be left with peace-keeping responsibilities in the area for decades to come. The continuing demands for "a diplomatic solution" or to "give peace a chance" are hardly surprising.

Yet a "diplomatic solution" can only be a face-saving device, either

to enable Saddam to hang on to Kuwait, or to withdraw from it and he is not likely to withdraw until he sees that the alternative is either the ruin of his country by economic sanctions, or the destruction of his regime by war. What are the prospects of economic sanctions precipitating such a change of mind?

No doubt careful analysis is being carried out, in Washington and elsewhere, of the vulnerability of the Iraqi economy to external pressures. An authoritarian regime can survive hardship for a very long time, and indeed gain popular support in the process. The belief that economic sanctions on their own can compel a recalcitrant state to surrender has much in common with the hopes so widely held before 1939 that aerial bombardment on its own could win a war. It is an idea that has simply not been thought through.

In any event, economic pressure, if it works at all, is unlikely to show results much before the end of next year. In the meantime Saddam will be working skillfully to weaken the alliance against him — playing the Palestinian card, in particular, for all it is worth. In an ideal scenario, he would either be stung into a desperate assault on his jailors, be overthrown in an

internal coup, or abjectly surrender, not only restoring Kuwait and paying a huge indemnity, but accepting international supervision of his future force levels. None of these outcomes appears likely. More probable, unfortunately, is that in a year's time, UN approval for military action — and indeed support for it within America — will be even harder to come by than today. The shock of Saddam's aggression will have abated; the blockade will be leaking like a sieve, and Kuwait will have been written off as a historical anomaly that should not have existed anyway.

Syria and Saudi Arabia, despairing of action, will be adjusting themselves to the inevitable. An "Arab solution" will then be reached, and the American forces will be politely invited to return home.

That is the risk that President Bush and his supporters run by waiting and "giving peace a chance". The magnitude of that risk depends on one's assessment of Saddam Hussein and the danger he poses to regional and global stability. President Bush sees him as another Hitler, an evil figure with hegemonic ambitions who, if not stopped at the first opportunity, will go on to build an

invincible and expanding empire. That is pitching it a bit high, but clearly Saddam is a skilful and dangerous adversary whose appetite for power is likely to grow with success, and whose successes will spur still greater ambitions.

If we believe that conciliation will only feed these ambitions, as seems altogether probable, then he must be destroyed. And if that decision is taken, postponement of hostilities makes sense only if it facilitates the destruction of Saddam by blockade, or makes possible an attack under more favourable circumstances at a later date. Neither of these arguments is valid.

So President Bush faces a truly hideous decision. The arguments against any course of action must appear a good deal stronger than any supporting them, but sometimes the most peace-loving of statesmen feel compelled to go to war, in full realisation of all that implies, rather than remain in a condition of deteriorating peace. That was the choice which Britain made, with the greatest possible reluctance, in 1939. The president may have to do the same before the end of the year.

Sir Michael Howard is Robert E. Lovett Professor of Modern History at Yale University.

Why yesterday's men have no hope against de Klerk

Bernard Levin reflects on the seed of collapse inherent in every tyranny, and sees the headlong changes in South Africa conforming to a general pattern

When President de Klerk of South Africa announced that he would be willing to serve in a government headed by Nelson Mandela, the news naturally went round the world. But I could not help feeling that it did not receive the attention it deserved. This, after all, is what he said on the subject:

Blacks will probably form the majority in any government elected by all South Africans. I would serve under any president, including Mr Nelson Mandela, who was elected in the form of the new constitution.

Just stop a moment while I remind you when it was that President de Klerk took office, succeeding P.W. Botha (who left, I recall, in a most filthy temper); it was a mere 15 months ago. Be honest; how long did you think it would take for a South African president to say without ambiguity that in an election on non-racial lines the majority of members of the government would be black, and that he, the president, would be willing to serve under a black head of state? Before de Klerk's elevation, I imagine that answers on the optimistic side would have been around 30 years, and those from the gloomier faction would range from "At least a century" to "Don't be ridiculous".

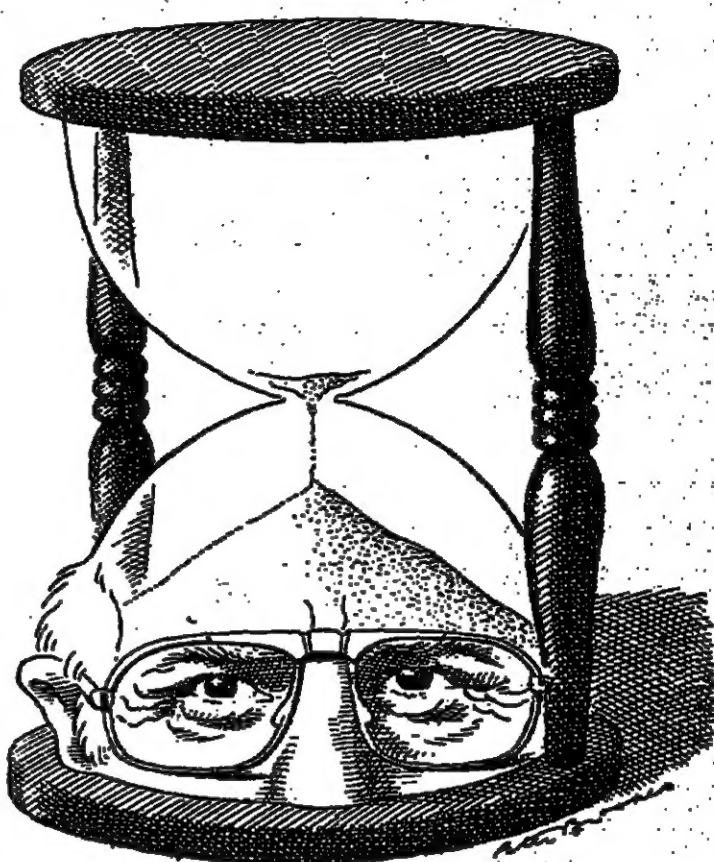
We should not have been surprised, at least if we know anything about 20th-century history. I clearly remember the apparently eternal rule of Salazar over Portugal; I remember his death, and the smooth succession of Caetano, whose dictatorship well-informed observers had predicted would be as long-lasting as Salazar's, provided his health remained good. Then General Spínola sniffed the wind, nodded to a few friends, and the whole rotten edifice fell down dead in a

single day, without a shot being fired. (I shall never forget the enchanting picture of young soldiers parading with flowers in the muzzles of their guns.)

A year later it was the turn of Spain. Franco was plainly determined to continue ruling even from the grave, if the instructions he left the young king were carried out. Spain has had bad luck with kings throughout the centuries: some mad, some wicked, most useless. But she struck lucky with Juan Carlos, who played himself in like a master, and managed the transition to full democracy with wisdom, understanding and safety. Yet that achievement too was greeted with cries of astonishment by those who could not believe that the future might be different from the past.

The best, as we now know, was to come. But what do you mean "as we now know"? I knew long ago that the Soviet empire was doomed and would surely die well inside my lifetime, and I said so repeatedly. For that matter, I said much the same about South Africa. The clue was the second American Emancipation, the assault on the barriers of segregation by the much reviled Lyndon Johnson; it was his legislative programme that finally broke the stand of the diehards. But the really significant thing in that battle was not that the battle was won, nor even that there were people willing to fight on the wrong side: it was the astuteness, ment — supposition would not be too lurid a word — with which Americans, after the new laws were enacted, looked back on their immediate past and at last saw that what they had been doing so long had so little point.

Whoever first said that the darkest hour is the one before the dawn got it bang to rights. Termites have usually had a bad press, but they are a woe in



metaphors, and they fit this picture perfectly. Many a stately castle, or for that matter torture-chamber, looks solid and invincible to the eye, or even to that of the borough surveyor, and so it is until the last bite of the last weevil is bitten, and down comes Humpty Dumpty, his foundations eaten away. Throughout history, men have defended to the death positions that, when they have fallen, can be plainly seen to be worthless. ("To pay five pence, five, I would not farm it...")

"Why, then the Polek never will defend it." "Yes, I already garrisoned it."

So it shall be, so it is, with South Africa. Of course, the diehards will die hard; de Klerk's great gesture was immediately attacked, by, to my unappealingly, a man whose name actually was van der Merwe: "If Mr de Klerk wishes to serve under Mandela," he said, "he

should go and do it somewhere else. We, here, have no intention of surrendering South Africa to black rule."

The trouble with these people is that they are immovably convinced that the moment their daughters are allowed to marry black men they will automatically do so, quite possibly with whoops of delight; indeed, some of them give evidence of believing that the weddings, if not the whoops as well, will be compulsory. But to my ear, the force of the indignation and horror is already on the wane: it is difficult now to think of anything that could halt South Africa's march to civilisation.

Spokesman van der Merwe cannot, that's for sure, though there are vile things in the underground, and will be for some time. That sticky-fingered general — I forget his name — must be long dead, and Mr Terreblanche is

presumably still too busy bonking. Dr. Terreblanche bonks not (well, it would be doubly shocking at his age), but he knows in his heart that the game's up, and that one day he will have to admit that the colour of a man's skin in itself gives no clue to the character inside it.

There is Brigadier Swanepoel, whose career I have followed with considerable interest and many a comment; he must hold the world record for the number of bruises raised on the bodies of innocent men and women, and for long I thought of him as a dangerous, ruthless, cold-blooded killer, a South African Beria or Himmler. Then I saw him for the first time, on a television programme, and I got the shock of my life. Despite his fully-deserved reputation, he turned out to be a dim, shabby, balding little thing, sweating under the lights and hardly capable of putting a dozen words together. Is that, do you suppose, what is going to turn back South Africa's clock?

The truth is that nothing is going to turn back South Africa's clock. There will be dangers to face and mistakes to grieve over, and there may even be resistance by force, possibly well-ordered and well-armed. But even if there is something like a coup d'état it will be only a pause on the Great — the Greater — Trek. Why do you suppose, while his country is still very far from liberty, let alone equality and fraternity, President de Klerk made his astonishing promise? Do you suppose he did so without quietly taking soundings, without assurances that he could say what he did and not be universally condemned? The response from van der Merwe showed that his confidence was well-based. However long the road, and however dusty, he knows now that it will not peter out in a marsh of hate.

Just as I finished writing this, came the news that all political prisoners are to be released and pardoned. It seems that Mr de Klerk will indeed one day serve in a cabinet presided over by Mr. Mandela, and the final process will have begun: all over South Africa, men and women will be wondering why it took so long.

Ready to roll on the big night

While Kenneth Baker, the party chairman, looks for some small relief amid the Tory doom, BBC television has been planning its general election coverage. Anchormen have been chosen, graphics designed, introductory music commissioned and rehearsals scheduled. Philip Campbell, former head of the BBC's parliamentary unit, has been appointed executive editor. "We are working towards a possible election in June," says Television Centre. "Coverage of the local elections in May was the first display of our general election firepower. We will be well prepared. Every by-election from now on will be treated as a dry-run."

Viewers of the Bradford North by-election special on Thursday can gauge how on target that firepower will be. The programme will be fronted by David Dimbleby and Peter Snow and preceded by a special edition of *Question Time* from Bradford. Both Dimbleby and Snow, along with *Question Time*'s Peter Sissons have already been selected as principal presenters of the general election coverage.

Question Time may be transmitted more frequently in the run up to the election to give people a greater opportunity to question politicians. Peter Sissons has so far not been briefed on his precise election-night job, but it will be very different from his first, in 1964: "I was a studio runner at ITN, painting losses and gains on pieces of cardboard, and I have

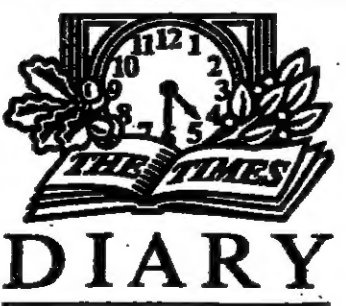
been involved in some way in every election since."

Programme rehearsals will begin in early December, with the first full studio rehearsal scheduled for February. But despite the Tories' current low standing in the opinion polls, suggests that the powder puffs and energy-boosting chocolate bars will be put on hold until well into 1992.

● If Israel is caught up in a dirty-tricks Gulf war, its dogs at least should be safe. The Jerusalem Post last week carried a front-page ad for "Gas-proof kennels for small pets. Applied to the National Safety Centre, c/o Tel Aviv fire station". Some pet owners too will be protected: inexplicably, the paper also advertises "British ministry of defence bomb shelters, ideal for defence men."

Gallant Sir Geoffrey

Sir Geoffrey Howe's soft-shoe shuffle into the sunset has dealt a grievous blow to the campaign to improve the lot of women at Westminster. As Leader of the House, Sir Geoffrey supported the demands of women MPs and staff for better facilities, quietly championing their cause and even considering chairing a conference to discuss working conditions for women MPs and staff. In a letter last month he told Tory backbencher Emma Nicholson that he hoped Sir Robin Tibb's study of the House's management would identify women's needs. "By making the House more efficient and responsive to the needs of members in all areas, we should be able to tackle more effectively some of the long-



standing needs and frustrations," he wrote.

Political journalist Lesley Abela, who is prominent in the campaign, says: "Sir Geoffrey has been, for example, the Commons has a barber shop but no women's hair-dressing salon. And although you can buy humbugs and whisky there, you can't buy a pair of tights." His all-round efforts, alas, went unappreciated by one particular woman MP.

Frankly speaking

Lord Longford's legendary saintliness has been sorely tried by historian David Cannadine in his new book, *The Decline and Fall of the British Aristocracy*. Describing Longford as "a completely marginal man" in Wilson's 1964 cabinet, Cannadine criticises his "high-minded self-righteousness, his mania for publicity, his lack of interest in any substantive political issues and his Cecilian desire to keep resigning."

"It seems clear," according to Cannadine, "that if he had not gone voluntarily, he would soon have been dismissed. No one listened to him, no one was

interested in what happened in the House of Lords, and no one wrote to him when he resigned over the relatively minor issue of raising the school leaving age."

Longford retorts: "When someone is that rude in an unbalanced way you can only laugh. I suppose his intentions are good. And so for no one writing to me when I resigned, I did meet Roy Jenkins six months later at Westminster and he said he had written warmly to me. Oh yes, and so did twenty others."

Showing the door

Burdened as she is with defection and revolt, Mrs Thatcher might take momentary comfort in learning that painter Michael Noakes is making steady progress on a life-size portrait of her standing outside 10 Downing Street.

But the picture will include much more than the prime min-

ister dressed in her favourite blue. Noakes plans to paint the doorway, step, railings and stone canopy full size. "The picture will be twelve feet high," says Noakes, who has painted smaller portraits of the Queen and other members of the Royal Family. "I want to introduce a *trompe l'oeil* element in the figure itself, it's a tremendous undertaking."

Noakes started work on the outside canvas after completing a portrait of Mrs Thatcher commissioned by a literary company. "I told her I would like to paint a full-length picture of her at the door of Number Ten because it had never been done before," he says. "I thought she would laugh it off but she said 'Do it'."

Noakes has two things to consider. Who will buy the work when it is finished — "It will have to go to a museum or gallery because of the size" — and will Mrs Thatcher still be in residence when it is completed in a year's time?

Flanders echo

The tomb of the Unknown Warrior at Westminster Abbey will be the scene of a poignant ceremony on Friday evening — start of the armistice weekend. The ship's bell from the destroyer *Verdun*, which brought the body from Boulogne to Dover in 1920, will be presented to the dean and chapter of the abbey. It is a gift from Commander J.D.R. Davis, RN, who joined the ship as a sub-lieutenant in 1920 and secured the bell before the *Verdun* was scrapped in 1946. It will hang beneath the Union flag that was draped over the coffin almost 70 years ago to the day.



1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 071-782 5000

THE PHANTOM GAUNTLET

Michael Heseltine really ought to stand for the Conservative leadership this month and have it out with Margaret Thatcher once and for all. The party's hierarchy is now so embattled that a contest of any sort would be more salutary than none at all. Mrs Thatcher has made it abundantly clear that she does not intend to resign before the next election. She will go only if a majority of backbench Tory members of parliament vote for her to go.

The attempt by Mr Heseltine to demoralise her into resignation, so that he can avoid the odium of abandoning his pledge not to stand against her, will not work. In the event of a stalking horse standing, she will fight and certainly win. Mr Heseltine is at present merely helping the Conservatives to lose the next election. He should put up or shut up.

There are now two distinct disputes running within the Conservative party. The first concerns the government's policy in the constant crises which the European Community constitution inflicts on its leaders every six months. The second concerns Mrs Thatcher's style of leadership. Neither is new, but both have been exacerbated by Sir Geoffrey Howe's resignation last week and Mr Heseltine's repeated throwing down of his phantom gauntlet.

On Europe there is little new to be said. In a flurry of weekend polls, Tory MPs indicated general agreement with Mrs Thatcher's scepticism towards further economic union. But they did wish that she could involve her colleagues and themselves more in the evolution of that scepticism. The debate over European union is now in turmoil not just in Britain but among thinking politicians in other countries of Europe as well. Mrs Thatcher clearly owes it to her party to persuade those who cannot see her strategy as clearly as she can, in addition to those who rally instinctively to her banner. The Rome shambles — a shambles on all sides — merited more exegesis than her Boudicca act in the Commons.

On her leadership style, the story is even older. No Tory MP can be so intransigent as only now to have noticed that Mrs Thatcher is not in the front rank of tactful politicians. As one minister after another flies from the cabinet room, driven beyond endurance by her manner or casually tossed on her pitchfork, they pour out their anguish in (mostly unreadable) memoirs, and leave her shouting Good riddance! through the still-swinging

door. She is clearly infuriating. But the style is the essence of the woman. It is part and parcel of her leadership.

British politics is not American politics. There is no division of power. Strong leaders enjoy untrammelled control of the executive and the legislature as long as they can keep their health and win general elections. Gladstone, Lloyd George and Churchill were simply convinced that they were right — matter closed — though they worked harder than Mrs Thatcher on ensuring peace in the party. Serving such leaders was rarely comfortable, let alone fun.

At about this stage before each of Mrs Thatcher's last two election victories, the Conservative party plunged into self-doubt bordering on despair. The focus of doubt was always on "Mrs Thatcher's style of government". Polls were taken among Tory MPs showing patchy support for various alternative leaders. Mrs Thatcher has stared them all down. She has defeated them with a stamina and will-power which no potential rival has been able to match — helped by her dangerous readiness to stage pre-election battles.

The questions raised this week are thus not new. That does not make them unworthy. The moment comes when every party feels the need of a new leader, which may even be sooner than the incumbent judges appropriate. But the only way of discovering if the Conservatives have reached that point is for it to be put to the test. The only plausible alternatives to Mrs Thatcher likely to give Neil Kinnock a serious run for his money are Douglas Hurd, John Major and Michael Heseltine. Neither Mr Hurd nor Mr Major — nor indeed any other cabinet minister — will stand against Mrs Thatcher unless she is eliminated by somebody else on the first ballot.

Which leaves Mr Heseltine. He has said that he will not stand against Mrs Thatcher, which implies the need for a "stalking horse" such as Sir Anthony Meyer last year. But with Mrs Thatcher in vigorous form and a majority of MPs apparently ready to stick with her through the next election, such a horse will simply be shot down. This means that Mr Heseltine must abandon his promise and stand in a first ballot. He will almost certainly be beaten, thus strengthening Mrs Thatcher's hand for a clear run to the next election. But he will have made his point and she, her party critics must hope, will have taken the message to heart.

MID-TERM MELANCHOLY

America goes to the polls tomorrow in gloomy mood. According to a weekend poll, following a trend of several months, the people of the United States are more pessimistic than at any time in the past decade. So, in the immediate future, are some senior senators and congressmen who find themselves taking part in unexpectedly close races.

The discontent naturally focuses on incumbents. The considerable privileges of holding office in Washington — free mailing rights, media exposure and often outrageous patronage — are attracting increased resentment. One of the most important long-term indicators among tomorrow's thousands of voters is the proposition in California to limit the period in office of state representatives.

If the measure passes — likely despite a well-financed campaign against it by the Democratic party — this could send a signal to the rest of the country as powerful as the tax cutting movement in the 1980s, another Californian fashion which quickly became national. Already such famous figures as Senator Jesse Helms of North Carolina are at risk from this impatience with politicians seen to have taken their electorates too much for granted for too long. The senator would have found the black Democrat, Harvey Gantt, a strong challenger at the best of times. On the Pacific coast in Oregon, 24 years of senate service by Republican Mark Hatfield are at risk of ending in a battle which he hardly knew he was in.

Such tinkering with the electoral machinery will not lift the national gloom, nor ease President Bush's difficulties with congress. Only an economic revival will do that. Republican hopes for this year's congressional elections were high in the spring, but Mr Bush's maladroit handling of the recent budget crisis

will probably hand the Democrats some modest gains. Tomorrow's vote, however, will not be a fair judgment on Mr Bush, nor on his budget policy nor indeed on his Gulf policy. No president since Franklin Roosevelt has improved his party's congress position in a mid-term poll. The coat-tail effect usually disappoints those who count on it, though Republican optimists are now looking to 1996, the year they hope to see Mr Bush sweep back for another term, as their next big chance for congressional control.

Meanwhile the predicament of a Republican in the White House with a Democratic block vote on Capitol Hill for the next two years will be even more difficult. Mr Bush has taken tough budgetary decisions against the wishes of some of his "closest supporters". He has suffered heavy criticism in a budget crisis which in hindsight, though ill waged, was fought in the good cause of bringing down the federal deficit and focusing the nation's eyes on its financial predicament. If he was sorely pressed, it was his own fault in pledging himself not to raise taxes when he must have known the pledge could not be kept.

But the future of the 41st president lies not in the mid-term results but with his troops, allies and enemy in the desert around the Gulf. Mr Bush has been accused of using Operation Desert Shield to bolster his own popularity rating. This has stopped falling in the past few days as the budget debacle fades from the short memory of America's fickle electorate. But those who charge him with electioneering are mostly those who are electioneering themselves. Mr Bush is right to raise the Gulf issue on the stump. He could hardly have ignored it. The need to prepare America for war over Kuwait is paramount.

HUNTING HYPOCRISY

Whenever the hunting of animals is debated the baying of hypocrites can be loudly heard. Many of those who oppose killing for the pleasure of sport are prepared to eat meat which has been killed for the pleasure of the table. Only a small vegetarian minority, whose sincerity is not in question, have a genuine abhorrence of all killing of animals.

The debated is further confused by a wider cultural division, between country people and townspeople, between wealthy and not so wealthy and even between the South-East and the rest of Britain. The postal vote by National Trust members announced on Saturday, over whether to allow hunting on the trust's 500,000 acres, was an example of many of these divides.

The vote achieved an illogical compromise: stag-hunting would be banned on National Trust land but the hunting of foxes, hares and mink could continue. Fewer than 140,000 of the trust's two million members exercised their right to vote. Only those with strong feelings on either side must have done so, and the great majority of the non-voters must therefore be counted among those who are content to leave things as they are.

Hunt supporters claim that hunting is part of the fabric of rural life. Farmers have to control certain animals — including deer and foxes — in order to protect their stock and crops. They say fox hunting with hounds evolved because it was efficient, not because it was fun. Nonsense, replies the anti-hunting lobby. Vermin can be killed far more humanely. They should not have to be exposed to the terror of the chase, to have their lung burst or be torn apart by hounds. The charge, in effect, is pleasure in

cruelty, sadism.

Pro-hunters do not like to admit that hunting, and having the right to ride where they please across open country at speed while dressed up like 19th-century squires, is exciting. They would rather argue that hunting is good for conservation, pro-nature. Fox hunting is not the preserve of the upper classes; hunts are supported by local farmers and followed increasingly by ordinary people.

They know very well that hunting is bound to involve some degree of incidental cruelty. So is the culling of deer, the trapping of mice and moles, the poisoning of rats and what goes on inside an abattoir. Chasing a fox with a pack of hounds may seem harsh to sentimental townfolk, but that harshness does not make it immoral. Most species have predators and live in fear of being preyed upon. Many species, foxes especially, have evolved as both predator and prey, equipped for survival in either respect. If morality enters in the equation, the specific breeding of creatures for sporting slaughter — notably grouse and pheasant — is more questionable. But where would the modern grouse be without its predator, man? Extinct, possibly.

Townspeople do miserable things to animals and to their fellow human beings within the confines of urban Britain. While members of the National Trust can act as they please with the land they control, they would do well to leave the rest of the countryside to its own — natural and sometimes naturally cruel — devices. If the vast majority of trust members abstained in the hunting ballot because they were sceptical of the case on both sides, they were wise.

Howe resignation and collective will

From Sir Kenneth Lewis

Sir, If a prime minister becomes seriously out of step with a majority of the cabinet then, as head of government, the prime minister has to consider her own position. That is the historic position.

If Margaret Thatcher believes she is not out of step with her cabinet, and this appears to be her stated view on Europe in her letter to Sir Geoffrey Howe (report, November 2), then she must gear her speeches and their tone to the collective will of the cabinet.

She must not go too far ahead of the field, still less calling "rally ho!" to emphasise it. Otherwise the very success she seeks for British influence in Europe will be lost.

Yours faithfully,
KENNETH LEWIS,
Redlands, Preston, Rutland.

From Lord Wrenbury

Sir, I think Mrs Thatcher has got it right. Many of us are fundamentally opposed to greater integration with Europe, whether this be by way of monetary union or the Channel tunnel. Nothing that we have experienced so far makes us feel that getting our feet wet has been of the least advantage to us. We cast envious eyes on Norway and Sweden and wish that we in this country had had the sense to keep out of the Common Market. The concept of political union is anathema.

We have seen conglomerates fail dismally in the financial sector. Why should they be any more successful in the political sector? The pressure for closer economic and political union is coming from industry, not from the man in the street.

It is quite obvious to me that the ultimate consequence of what is now proposed is political union, and it should be equally obvious to our politicians that the people of this country will not stand for that. The fact that their protest is long delayed is attributable to the fact that they have not yet realized where they are being led.

It is to my mind disastrous that Mrs Thatcher should be virtually the only person in authority who is in step with public opinion. She should get much more support than she does from her colleagues.

Yours etc.,
WRENBURY,
Oldcastle, Dallington,
Near Heathfield, Sussex.

Summit night's dream

From Major-General P. L. de C. Martin

Sir, I dreamed that I was present at the recent European summit and heard President Mitterrand end an impassioned call for a single European currency by urging that this should be the pound sterling — to mark, said the President, Europe's gratitude to Britain for standing alone in 1940 and her subsequent part in the liberation of the European mainland.

His proposal was enthusiastically supported by the leaders of Holland, Belgium, Luxembourg, Denmark and Greece and a smiling Mrs Thatcher said that it would be churlish to ignore such a moving gesture of friendship.

Interviewed afterwards by the BBC, President Mitterrand said that the idea of making the pound sterling the single European currency had first been suggested to

him by M. Jacques Delors. On the same BBC programme Mr Kaufmann, the Labour shadow foreign secretary, declared that it was entirely Mrs Thatcher's fault that Britain had stood alone in 1940.

My dream faded as the White Rabbit, bearing a strong resemblance to Chancellor Kohl, scurried past me, muttering irritably "Wohlmuckuckheim". This I knew, without recourse to my German/English dictionary, meant "cloud-cuckoo-land".

Yours faithfully,
PETER MARTIN,
17 Station Street,
Lymington, Hampshire.

From Mr John Marshall

Sir, Under a single European currency, would deflation be known as "scupuncture"?

Yours faithfully,
JOHN MARSHALL,
School House, Church Street,
Chipping Norton, Oxfordshire.

From Sir Patrick Sergeant

Sir, The list of Sir Geoffrey Howe's achievements in your leading article today should, surely, have included perhaps his greatest — abolishing exchange controls and making the pound fully convertible in October 1979, against the advice of most of his experts and many in his party.

Even today, very few countries in the world enjoy this freedom with us.

Yours sincerely,
PATRICK SERGEANT,
Eurohouse House,
Playhouse Yard, EC4,
November 2.

From Mr Keith Martin

Sir, The resignation of Sir Geoffrey Howe as deputy prime minister suggests a government so deeply split over its orientation to Europe and European unity that a general election would seem to be the only lasting way of settling the quarrel.

This aside, however, Howe's resignation also gives the lie to two significant pieces of current political mythology. Firstly that the Conservative party never quarrels in public. Secondly that "Thatcherism" is hegemonic in British political life. Mrs Thatcher may well survive but Thatcherism is well and truly dead.

Yours sincerely,
KEITH MARTIN,
105a Lansdowne Road, N17,
November 2.

Tolstoy's charges

From Brigadier Anthony Cowgill

Sir, May I, as chairman of the independent inquiry into the reparations from Austria in 1945, comment on Nikolai Tolstoy's charges in his article, "Damned by Macmillan's own diary" (October 27).

In our report we have shown at exhaustive length in the reconstruction of events that there was no deception, deliberate or otherwise, of higher commands. The repatriation operations of both Cossacks and Yugoslavs took place as the result of a full series of signals and orders between all the relevant levels of the military command structure, from Alexander's headquarters down through Eighth Army to 5 Corps.

Through some 350 signals, messages and other documents of the time we give a very detailed picture of the decision-making processes and the large number of people, at all levels, involved. It is absolutely clear from these documents that the sweeping allegations made against Macmillan and also against General Keightley and senior officers of 5 Corps do not stand up in any way.

It might be thought sad that Tolstoy, in the face of such overwhelming evidence that he was wrong, should still be trying to maintain his theory that the events in Austria were the results

of a sinister conspiracy.

To all those who are concerned about understanding what really happened, I can only make a plea that they take the trouble to read our report (*The Reparations from Austria in 1945*, published by Sinclair-Stevenson in two volumes).

In order to make all the evidence available in the fullest possible form, we have reproduced in facsimile in our second volume all the documents to which we refer. We know of no other historical record in which this has been done. The inadvertent misquotation which arose from an editing error, spotted by Tolstoy in our text, and on which he bases his accusation of distortion, does not affect our arguments in any way. The document concerned appears correctly in two other places, once in facsimile.

Finally, I would stress, we did not set out to "exonerate" anyone. Our purpose was to reconstruct the tragic story of what happened in Austria, as fully, honestly and lucidly as possible, so as to enable the facts about these serious events to be more clearly understood.

Yours faithfully,
ANTHONY COWGILL,
Highfield, Longridge,
Sheepscombe,
Stroud, Gloucestershire,
November 1.

Punitive damages

From Mr Rodger J. Pannone

Sir, Simon PEARL's arguments (October 27) are clearly as simplistic as mine are "misconceived". There is a small minority of manufacturers and suppliers of services who are wantonly reckless or grossly negligent. They represent unfair competition to the vast majority who build into their costings proper safety standards.

Last year, I indicated that I was doubtful if the criminal law could act as a deterrent to senior management of the company, although it may be effective in dealing with individual employees. Recent events reinforce my request that consideration be given to the introduction of a civil remedy of punitive damages,

which will be unsurprising. Mr PEARL's senior partner, Mr David McIntosh, has called for a royal commission. I think this unnecessary, but an advisory committee could consider these proposals and report quickly. Early implementation can only save injury and life.

We do not have a monopoly of commonsense in this country. A number of countries, not only America, use effective punitive damages procedures to improve safety (see Professor Stoff's report from Freiburg University). Even in America, the vast majority of cases settle because punitive dam-

Letters to the Editor should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be sent to a fax number — (071) 782 5046.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Feeling left out of church services

From the honorary secretary of The Prayer Book Society

Sir, The Very Reverend Thomas Baker is right in saying (report, October 27) that so-called "family services" exclude many people from church services. Nor is it only the victims of broken homes and other unhappy people who feel excluded. The costly informal arrangements of many such services exclude those who feel that public worship of Almighty God should be conducted with dignity and rationality, not brought down to the level of a seven or eight-year-old.

"Family services" only became a necessity after the marginalisation of the ordinary service of matins, and the subsequent concentration of the whole thrust of church services upon the communion service. This change itself meant the virtual exclusion of all those who had not been confirmed in the Church of England, a category which includes many devout or inquiring souls

who for one reason or another have not felt ready to undertake the full commitment of seeking confirmation.

Matins and evensong of the traditional prayer-book type cater very well for such people, as well as for the unhappy solitary souls or for families with children. Yet for some reason, when it was realised that the exclusive concentration on Holy Communion was losing attendances, many parishes opted to try yet more experimental change, introducing informal family services instead of reviving matins.

The Prayer Book Society receives every day inquiries from those who feel themselves ignored or forgotten by the church in its modern services.

Yours faithfully,
MARGOT THOMPSON,
Honorary Secretary,
The Prayer Book Society,
St James Garlickhythe,
Garlick Hill, EC4A,
October 31.

Hindley release

From Mr David L. Astor

Sir, The Archbishop of Cork's letter (October 27) supporting Bernard Levin's defence of the seldom-defended Lord Longford made a pleasant change. But I doubt whether his guess why the Home Office treats one prisoner, Miss Hindley, differently from all other "lifers" is correct. It is unlikely to be concern for her safety or for the "sanity" of the families of her victims.

A more probable reason is that successive home secretaries have known for sure that to treat her like other lifers, who ultimately are released, might lose their political party a huge number of votes and gain them very few.

This is not because the public has knowledge that makes them certain her crimes were worse than those of others or knowledge that she is incapable of remorse or change. The public's apparent

attitude towards her is due to a unique campaign of hatred carried on by the popular tabloid newspapers over more than a quarter of a century.

The tabloids were quick to discover in the moors murder trial a source of big money for themselves. By running countless stories, often based on practically nothing, over two and a half decades, they have moulded public opinion in the belief that she is an unchanging woman monster who could never be released back into society. So successful has been this campaign that it has created a fear in Whitehall of treating her like other prisoners.

The reality is that it is considered politically expedient not to grant her parole and Miss Hindley is, in this sense, a political prisoner.

Yours faithfully,
DAVID L. ASTOR,
9 Cavendish Avenue, NW8,
October 30.

Soldiers in the Gulf

From Mr A. M. Greenwood

Sir, Major General Strawson's adverse reflection (October 25) on the Army's public relations staff, referring to the "totally unutilised" dress, bearing and alertness of two soldiers" pictured in *The Times* of October 19, recalls to my mind pictures of those superb Australian troops wearing nothing but shorts who defended Tobruk so successfully against the Afrika Korps in 1941.

I also like to think of members of the Long Range Desert Group's patrols going about their business often clad more like Arabs than the souks of Cairo than soldiers. I call to mind, too, an occasion when I visited Major Bernard Bruce, the G2 Ops (General Staff Officer Grade 2 Operations) at Eighth Army headquarters during a battle against the Germans near Lake Trasimene in Italy (which we won). His sole dress consisted of a Panama hat and a towel round his waist.

Appearances can be deceptive.

Yours faithfully,
A. M. GREENWOOD,
32 St Ann's Terrace, NW8,
October 26.

Census and poll tax

From Dr R. J. Thomas

Sir, The national census is to be undertaken on April 21 next year by the Office of Population Census and Surveys. Many people will worry that the disclosed data required could be obtained by district councils to aid their search for poll tax debtors.

Legislation ensures that information on individuals is strictly confidential, cannot be passed on to other government departments and is stored in vaults for up to 100 years. The collective analysed data, however, is vital for hospital building programmes, standardising mortality and morbidity rates used in medical research and assessing the prevalence of chronic disease.

Furthermore, accurate collection of data is particularly important in inner city areas such as Liverpool which are known to have a higher incidence of disease. Paradoxically it is in cities like Liverpool, with 42 per cent of its population not registered for poll tax, where this accuracy will be unlikely. Serious repercussions on medical statistics for the next ten years will ensue unless significant strategic measures are initiated. These could entail either delaying the census for one year or substantially increasing advertising to stress the importance and complete dissociation of the census from the poll tax.

Yours faithfully,
R. J. THOMAS,
28 Upper Addison Gardens,
Holland Park, W14.

ages claims are rarely appropriate.

To give the victim, if punitive damages are awarded, a small part of these damages as satisfaction, contrasts with America but follows a number of European initiatives. To pay the remainder of these punitive damages into a fund to improve industrial safety, or even to the state, would be appropriate.

Let us consider these proposals free from partisan influences. We should perhaps start by insisting that all companies in their annual report have a section devoted to their safety policies and records.

Yours faithfully,
RODGER PANNONE,
5 Darley Avenue,
Didsbury, Manchester 20,
October 29.

Plight of Falashas

From Mrs June Jacobs

Sir, Mr Gale (October 27) states categorically that Israel does not want to accept Ethiopian Jews. This is totally incorrect. Many thousands of Jews from Ethiopia are already settled in Israel, desperately concerned about members of their families now waiting in dreadful conditions in Addis Ababa for permits from the Ethiopian authorities to emigrate to Israel.

Former President Jimmy Carter was no doubt misled when told by President Mengistu that the Jews of Ethiopia were free to leave. Were that true then all those men, women and children would now be safely reunited with their families in Israel. This is their human right and our fervent hope.

Yours faithfully,
JUNE JACOBS (Chairman,
Foreign Affairs Committee),
Board of Deputies of British Jews,
Tavistock Square, WC1.

Philip Larkin's will

From Professor H. MacL. Currie

Sir, It is perhaps worth recalling that Virgil wanted his executors, Varius and Tucca, to burn the scrolls containing the Aeneid after his death ("Cast to the flames, or winds that should live forever", Bernard Levin, November 1). This was opposed by the emperor Augustus in person: although the work might not stand up to the severe self-criticism of the poet himself, it was clearly too important to allow it to perish.

Yours truly,
H. MACL. CURRIE,
25 West Street, Yarm, Cleveland.

Missing wheels

From Mrs Dora Nash

Sir, Am I alone in lamenting the demise of the Catherine wheel, one of the few vestiges of our much-eroded Christian heritage?

I have been informed by six different retailers that Catherine wheels are no longer available, being in the words of one "rather fiddling to make".

A curse on all mean-minded, philistine firework manufacturers! May all their squibs be damp.

Yours faithfully,
DORA NASH,
Chilren Rise Cottage,
Reading Road,
Woodcote, Reading, Berkshire.

The older and wiser student

Mature entrants take their work more seriously, writes Sue Simpson from personal experience

I spent Freshers' Week looking for somebody as old as myself. Among all the laughing, chattering faces, only the canteen staff looked over 20. I thought I had made the worst mistake of my life. But before the first lecture, I could pick them out. There, lurking at the back of the coffee queue, was the man with the receding hairline. There, distastefully unpeeling a piece of somebody else's chewing gum from the underside of her desk, was the woman with spectacles dangling from her neck on a cord. There, sporting a blazer with regimental badge, was the grey-haired gentleman carrying his books in a Gladstone bag.

These are the tell-tale characteristics by which one spots a mature student. We made eye contact, nodded briefly, and moved apologetically into the lecture hall. We gathered curiously close together on the front benches. Whether this was because we felt safer as a group or was in deference to our failing sight and hearing I am not sure, but the tribe instinctively gathered. The realisation dawned that there were really quite a lot of us. In fact, we are part of a growing force of mature students, and I believe we are changing the face of British universities. We now make up a fifth of full-time and sandwich course students in British universities, colleges and polytechnics. Numbers have risen steadily since the beginning of the Eighties, and I am one of 139,000 students patronisingly referred to as "mature students with non-standard entry qualifications".

But do we fit into the system? Academics love and fear us in equal measures. They are used to teenagers who miss a drop tutorial because they have overslept, but a grown-up woman weeping over a poor essay mark would have them quaking in their sandals.

"I backpacked to Berlin at Easter, so I haven't finished any of last term's essay... (pause for effect)... but I've bought you a bit of the Wall." This may have been one of the best excuses of my younger classmates, but academics will not hear excuses from us unless all the children catch chickenpox in the same week.



Homework time: Sue Simpson is a mature student with "non-standard entry qualifications". Her studies coincide with daughter Kate's

We soon cease to regard our teachers with awe. We are not satisfied by having an essay returned with brief, illegible comments. The single word "unfocused" was my favourite. Nor are we impressed by the lecturer who has delighted generations of teenagers with personal anecdotes while teaching us nothing.

We are hungry to learn and do not have much time. We expect a higher standard than the average student. Some lecturers like this and feel they get more response from us. A few cannot adjust to this new breed of student and probably resent our presence.

The "standard" students must be pretty resentful off too. They came here to escape their parents, only to find dozens of clones, not only of their parents - I am married with four children, aged from five to 25 - but in some cases of their grandparents, too. Some are quick to spot the advantages. As we are always at lectures, they can stay in bed and borrow our notes later - notes that are not riddled with hangover-induced omissions.

When faced with students fresh from A-level successes, we are

high on life experience but low on self-confidence. Most of us hardly know where the student union is, let alone have time to drink there. When you have to fit in lectures with school hours and slot in essays between cooking the evening meal and putting the kids to bed, there is not much time for traditional student pursuits.

However, this mature student, for one, has enjoyed every minute

Jane, aged 39, is taking a degree in languages, and is also the single parent of a four-year-old son. She gave up her dead-end job as a secretary because she felt that as a graduate she would be able to offer them both greater security for the future. She has an £800 overdraft, and faces a daily struggle to keep up the mortgage repayments on her flat. Her present limited income leaves her with less than

of personal achievement felt at every success is of inestimable value, especially to women, whose prior importance as wives and mothers and secondary role as breadwinners have often given them no sense of their own intellectual capabilities.

Some of my friends and relatives think my going to university is a symptom of a bizarre mid-life crisis, but my grown-up kids think it is great. In a strange reversal of roles, it is they who now encourage and support me and buy me books. Perhaps I can push this role-swapping to its ultimate end and ask them for a loan when my grant runs out.

So, if you are a young student and you see a person of advancing years, that is, anyone over the age of 21, who is prepared to wait ten minutes for the lift rather than climb six flights of stairs, or who is dragging arthritic limbs into the family Peugeot weighed down by a bag of books, do not recoil in horror. We have discovered a secret.

Education, like youth, is probably wasted on the young.

The author is a second-year arts student at Edinburgh University.

If you see a person of advancing years who is dragging arthritic limbs into the family Peugeot weighed down by books, do not recoil in horror. We have found a secret

of it, even those knee-knocking, heart-stopping, chain-smoking moments before every exam.

Most mature students suffer financial hardship. If the grant leaves younger students heavily in debt by the time they graduate, consider its inadequacy when there is a mortgage to pay and a family to support. Perhaps that is why we work so hard: fear of failure is an ever-present spectre.

£18 a week to live on. For Jane, committing herself to four years of higher education is a calculated risk, which she hopes will pay off. For most of us, it is not just financial hardship that puts us under pressure, but also the knowledge that our friends and families are watching our efforts. There is an emotional investment in the future as well. However, the tremendous sense

Places of protest

THE FEAR that opting out could make some state schools elitist was reinforced when Bullers Wood School for Girls, Chislehurst, Kent, became the fifth school to be given grant-maintained status. The school has been allowed to keep its old catchment area, which favours the middle classes in the prosperous south of the Conservative-controlled London borough of Bromley, and could seriously disadvantage girls from less prosperous homes that are geographically closer to the school.

Catchment areas for all Bromley schools were altered last year after the Greenwich ruling, which meant children could apply for places in neighbouring boroughs, and the decision has ruffled a few feathers even in Conservative Bromley.

Roger Wood, the chief schools officer, says: "It is an extraordinary decision. It is a symptom of the political momentum given to opting out that they have been prepared to override eccentricities such as this. The education secretary accepted an illegal admissions policy for the girls' school while telling us we have to abide by the Greenwich ruling. The regulations have created a class of untouchables."

Ray Page, the vice-chairman of the Bullers Wood governors, rejected claims that they wanted to change the nature of the school and to restrict entry. In a letter to primary school governors, he said places would be available to girls from outside its immediate catchment area.

Awayday worries

PARENTS, concerned that extra training of teachers leaves many classes with a succession of stand-in teachers, received little comfort from a government-sponsored report last week. The report said there was "no magic solution". The training required for the introduction of the national curriculum makes it difficult for many schools to provide replacement teachers when staff are sent on courses for up to 20 days in one term.

The report, from the National Foundation for Educational Research, said: "Staff need to be away from their classes on occasions and the

need for supply cover will never be totally removed. But serious thought must be given to ways in which the demand for supply teachers is kept to a minimum, or which at least ensure that their use creates as little disruption as possible."

The report said consideration should be given both to increasing the number of "Baker" days, when teachers are in school but pupils are not, and to paying teachers for attending courses in their own time, this would be "beset with difficulties".

Marked up

AN ERROR during the marking of A-level biology papers gave more than 100 students lower grades than they had achieved. The Manchester-based Joint Matriculation Board, which set the examination, apologised to the candidates who had been downgraded because a scanner reading pencil markings had failed to recognise accurate answers. The correct grades have now been given.

Under strength

ALMOST 40 per cent of companies failed to recruit as many graduates as they wanted this year, but more than half had put graduates into jobs that did not require degrees, according to a new report.

Last month's survey of 200 employers by Graduate Post found that a quarter intended to increase recruitment in spite of recession fears. Yet 52 per cent had vacancies that could be filled by non-graduates.

MK independent

MILTON KEYNES is adding to its educational portfolio by asking for bids to set up an independent secondary school alongside the recently announced establishment of a polytechnic and a business school. The city already houses the Open University. The site offered for the co-educational 13-18 school could take 750 pupils, including boarders, and the development corporation hopes to see a minimum of 600. The school will also have to take into account that Milton Keynes already has 235 international companies, be able to respond to changing international requirements, and promote international understanding.

DAVID TYTLER

071-481 1066

EDUCATIONAL

071-481 1066

UNIVERSITY APPOINTMENTS



Leicester University

SCHOOL OF BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES

Professor of Genetics

Applications are invited for the Chair of Genetics within the Department of Genetics in the School of Biological Sciences. Applicants with research interests in any area of Genetics are encouraged to apply. The Department currently has a diversity of active research groups whose work ranges from prokaryotic systems, fungi and yeast, to fruit fly behaviour and the human genome. It is expected that the successful candidate will provide academic leadership for the Department, which, as a member of the Faculties of Science and Medicine, runs successful undergraduate and MSc programmes within the School of Biological Sciences and contributes to pre-clinical teaching within the Medical School. It is also expected that he/she will act as Head of Department.

Informal enquiries may be made to Dr Peter Williams or Professor Alec Jeffreys, Department of Genetics, telephone (0533) 523438.

Salary will be negotiated within the Professorial Range, current minimum £27,013.

Further particulars may be obtained from The Staffing Office (Academic Appointments), University of Leicester, University Road, Leicester LE1 7RH, telephone (0533) 522439.

UK candidates should submit fifteen copies of their application. (Overseas candidates may submit one copy). The University FAX number is (0533) 522200. Closing date for applications: 14 December 1990.



Leicester University

FACULTY OF MEDICINE

CHAIR OF CHEMICAL PATHOLOGY

Applications are invited for new post of Professor of Chemical Pathology. Applicants may be medical or non-medically qualified and should possess the MRCPath or other equivalent qualification. It is anticipated that the successful candidate will be offered an Honorary Contract by the Leicestershire Health Authority.

This development is the result of close collaboration between the Medical School, the Leicester Royal Infirmary and the Leicestershire Health Authority. The field of research of the Chair is not prescribed, but it is essential that the successful candidate should have a proven record of research. Exciting opportunities for collaborative research will arise with the completion of the new IRC in Mechanisms of Human Toxicity, associated with the transfer of the MRC Toxicology Unit to purpose-built accommodation on the University campus, adjacent to the Medical Sciences Building. Salary will be negotiated on the Clinical Professional range or the Non-Clinical Professional range, as appropriate.

Further particulars may be obtained from the Staffing Office (Academic Appointments), University of Leicester, University Road, Leicester, LE1 7RH, telephone (0533) 522439. U.K. candidates should submit fifteen copies of their application. (Overseas candidates may submit one copy). The University FAX number is (0533) 522200.

Closing date for application: 14 December 1990.

OXFORD
UNIVERSITY AND ST
ANNE'S COLLEGE

TUTORIAL FELLOWSHIP IN LAW AND LINCOLN'S LECTURESHIP IN LAW

St Anne's College invites applications from women and men for a Tutorial Fellowship in Law. The post will be held in conjunction with the Lincoln's Lectureship in Law, a newly-established Oxford University post generously funded by a donation to the Campaign for Oxford by Lincolns, the Oxford solicitors. The successful applicant, who will have her or his primary interest in the field of commercial law, will be expected to take up the appointment from 1 October 1991.

Further particulars are available from the Financial Secretary, St Anne's College, Oxford OX2 6HS. The closing date for applications (10 copies) is 7 December 1990.

St Anne's College and Oxford University are equal opportunity employers.

UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD

University of Oxford in association with St Anne's and St John's Colleges

UNIVERSITY LECTURESHIP IN SOCIOLOGY IN THE DEPARTMENT OF APPLIED SOCIAL STUDIES AND SOCIAL RESEARCH

Applications are invited for the above post. Stipend according to age on the scale £12,086 - £23,819. The successful candidate may be offered a tutorial fellowship at St Anne's College and a college lectureship at St John's College.

Further particulars may be obtained from Mrs. S. J. Dyson, Department of Applied Social Studies and Social Research, Barnett House, Wellington Square, Oxford OX1 2ER, to whom completed applications (eight typed copies) should be sent by 10 December, 1990.

The University is an Equal Opportunity Employer

UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD

NATIONAL WESTMINSTER RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP IN EUROPEAN INTERNATIONAL POLITICS

Applications are invited for the new post, tenable for five years from 1 April 1991 or as soon as possible thereafter, the duties of which will be to conduct and publish research in the field of the international relations of the state of Western Europe and to contribute to graduate teaching in this and related fields.

Salary according to age and experience on the RS IX scale (£17,495 - £23,819 p.a.).

The successful candidate may be offered a research fellowship at St Antony's College.

Further particulars may be obtained from the Administrative, Social Studies Faculty Centre, George Street, Oxford, OX1 2EL, to whom completed applications (six typed copies) should be sent by 31 December 1990.

The University is an Equal Opportunity Employer

UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD

In association with St. Cross College

UNIVERSITY OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH OFFICER

Applications are invited for the new post of University Occupational Health Officer. The post will be that of a university lecturer in the Faculty of Clinical Medicine with an honorary consultant contract with the Oxfordshire Health Authority. The appointee will be responsible to the University for establishing and building up an occupational health service for the University and will undertake some teaching and research.

Stipend according to age on the scale £32,520 - £41,980. The successful candidate may be offered a fellowship at St. Cross College.

Further details may be obtained from Professor Vessey, Department of Public Health and Primary Care, Gibson Laboratory Building, Radcliffe Infirmary, Oxford OX2 6HE, to whom applications (nine typed copies or one from overseas applicants) with full curriculum vitae and the names of three referees should be sent by 29 December 1990.

The University is an Equal Opportunity Employer

UNIVERSITY OF KENT

AT CANTERBURY

M.Phil. in Habitat Restoration

Durrell Institute of Conservation & Ecology

University of Kent at Canterbury

Applications are invited for a research student to work on a project involving habitat reconstruction in semi-arid environment. The project forms part of a larger research programme on the conservation biology of the Houbara bustard (including enhancement of existing habitats and release of captive-bred individuals).

The applicant must have a good first degree in either Biology, Botany or Ecology and have an interest in plant physiological ecology and restoration biology. Experience in the area of habitat restoration would be an advantage. The student will be based in Abu Dhabi (United Arab Emirates) and at DICE at the University of Kent.

The project commences October 1990 for two years initially, with the possibility of extending into a three-year Ph.D.

Further details available from:

The Director,
Durrell Institute of Conservation & Ecology,
The University, Canterbury, Kent, CT2 7NX.

Closing date 30 November 1990.
Please quote FG91/2 with any enquiries.

UNIVERSITY OF BATH

SCHOOL OF CHEMISTRY

PROFESSOR OF PHYSICAL CHEMISTRY

Applications are invited for the Chair of Physical Chemistry.

Candidates with a strong research track record in experimental and/or theoretical areas are invited to request further particulars about the appointment.

It is envisaged that the successful candidate will take up the appointment in September 1991 or as soon as possible thereafter.

Further particulars may be obtained from Peter J. Hill, Director of Personnel, University of Bath, Claverton Down, Bath, BA2 7AY, telephone 0225 826026.

Closing date for applications: 30th November 1990

هكسان النحل

EDUCATION

Colleges' rebellion
confuses funding

Universities are facing criticism for their response to the "bidding" process introduced by the Universities Funding Council (UFC). Their unwillingness to offer to take students at much below the UFC grant levels has brought cries that they are insensitive to the public interest in expanding higher education. The council is now delaying implementation for at least a year, throwing all planning into disarray (Raoul Franklin writes).

The bidding process must be seen against the background of another significant change in university funding. Tuition fees are being increased to about a third of the cost and there is a compensating cut in the UFC grant. This will make institutions more responsive to student demand, as changes in numbers will immediately affect income. Universities show signs of responding and have taken extra students this year over and above those paid for in the UFC grant.

Why, then, are they apparently less responsive to the other market force, of competition on price? There has been a change of language since the discussion that preceded the Education Reform Act in 1988. First, "contract" was used to describe agreements between the Polytechnics and Colleges Funding Council and the Universities Funding Council with individual institutions. However, "contract" has a legal meaning covering price and delivery and is difficult to apply when the output consists of graduates with a will of their own.

"Tendering" was substituted, but that too is a legal term. This was replaced by "bidding" at a price that might be at or below a centrally set guide price. Finally, "offer" was used, implying that institutions would offer to increase student numbers, expecting an assured increase in income if their offer price was acceptable.

Yet it has not been possible to get definitive statements about the way the effects of inflation are to be built into the raising of fees, or the accepted offers, year by year, during the planning period 1991-95. This shows how far we still are from any market-like system.

Most institutions are operating close to, or at, the limit of their physical capacity. With no indication that there is to be any government money for capital

spending, institutions must save on their recurrent income and spending to finance expansion or improvement of capacity.

Changes in subject balance in an institution imply there is a need to restructure staffing. During the Eighties, costs of severance or early retirement were largely met by government through the funding agency. This will not continue, so additional costs will have to be met by the institution.

Some institutions hope to meet costs by realising capital assets or from gifts, though the state of the economy does not encourage optimism. Deficit funding is ruled out, so in the bidding process institutions have tried to minimise their financial risk. At the outset they were warned of problems if they bid too high in numbers and too low in price.

Ironically, having already admitted extra students to take short-term advantage of higher tuition fees, universities have weakened the argument for maintaining unit prices overall. At the same time, they have not

dared to seek a political advantage from lowering their bids, at the risk of their longer-term financial stability. Nor have they dared to court unpopularity with parents by surcharging tuition fees above the level paid through the mandatory award scheme. The outcome will depend on negotiations between the Treasury and the education department. Here, the universities' strongest weapon is the set of financial forecasts based on the optimistic assumption that their bids will be met in full. The UFC will probably defer a decision on how much to expand and how much to pay until these negotiations are complete.

Of course, the funding basis for the expansion of higher education has never been made clear by government since the 1986 white paper - the participants believe there is much to play for. The UFC's unhappy manoeuvres over the bidding process have in some ways obscured difficult funding issues. This gives strength to those who argue for a more radical reform of funding, advocating a fully market-driven system in which students would carry their funding with them. The effect on higher education planning would be dramatic.

The author is vice-chancellor of the City University.

Commonwealth nations need more primary school places. John O'Leary considers an issue that still causes tension

The battle for
basics goes on

Education has caused tensions between Britain and her Commonwealth partners ever since fees for overseas students were raised a decade ago. Last week's conference of education ministers in Barbados showed that passions may have cooled over fees, but the pressure for more educational aid for poorer member states is as strong as ever.

The only pan-Commonwealth initiative introduced at the conference was for a new higher education support scheme to build up universities in third world countries, but the ministers' main aim, to raise standards of basic education, will not come cheaply. Dramatic increases in the number of children in school throughout the Commonwealth make it difficult for many countries to afford what they provide at present. Improvements will be out of reach without outside help.

Nearly eight out of ten Commonwealth children now attend primary school, but fewer than half go on to the secondary stage, let alone higher education. This means that literacy, numeracy and all the basic preparation for a working life must be instilled at primary school.

As the ministers' brief from the Commonwealth Secretariat noted: "Such expectations, when held in an era of harsh economic realities, pose a serious challenge to all people concerned with improving the quality of basic education."

Descriptions of basic education in 38 countries represented at the conference underlined budgetary constraints. Many reported fast-growing demand for school places, and said fierce competition for admission was compounded by high dropout rates and sluggish progress among those who get in.

Sheer weight of numbers threatens such educational advances as have been achieved, and even those who find their way through the system face rising unemployment.

In the Gambia, to take an extreme example, enrolments increased by 174 per cent in primary schools, 123 per cent in secondary technical schools and 129 per cent in high schools in a decade. Yet, although it devotes 13 per cent of public spending to education, encouraging community programmes and pouring in large amounts of aid, the government could offer places to only 60 per cent of the primary school age population in 1987. Four out of five adults remain illiterate.

The ministers agreed formally that in the Commonwealth as a whole the quality of basic education was declining and that this was having severe repercussions on secondary and tertiary education, as well as on the pool of skilled manpower.



Full up: this class in Zambia is crowded but essential education remains a Commonwealth priority

The World Bank is sufficiently worried to have devoted 40 per cent of a \$1.5 billion education budget to basic education, and Unesco has put \$2 million into an action plan on the subject.

Inadequate primary school provision will be no surprise to politicians or educationists in Commonwealth countries, but switching the emphasis of policies that have concentrated funds on higher education will not be easy. Developing countries have put faith and considerable funding into the development of their own

universities, and most are reluctant to abandon that investment.

An attempt by the World Bank three years ago to encourage a switch of resources into primary and non-formal education in sub-Saharan Africa met such determined resistance that it was toned down considerably. A world conference, entitled Education for All, held at Jomtien, Thailand, at the beginning of this year, produced a declaration pointing equally gingerly in the same direction.

The approach last week was to identify specific areas for im-

provements: research is to be commissioned on learning methods in schools; appeals will be made to international agencies for more money for teacher training; existing institutions will be used to distribute more information material; the potential of distance education to bridge the gap in primary and secondary education will be investigated further, and educational management help will be offered.

Tim Eggar, the British minister due to attend the conference, missed the entire proceedings

thanks to three-line whips on last week's dog registration votes. In his absence, however, his officials argued for a greater emphasis on primary and secondary education.

Nick Stuart, the education department deputy secretary who led the delegation, said: "Developing countries really have to look quite hard at whether in pursuit of the Jomtien declaration they are going to re-examine their policies so that when seeking aid they put basic education as a higher priority than they have hitherto."

The clear implication of discussions in the West Indies was that they would, but that student mobility and support for higher education would remain on their shopping lists as well. There was unanimous endorsement of the proposal for a higher-education support scheme (Chess) that would use existing Commonwealth networks to channel expertise directly to developing countries' universities. The new scheme will concentrate on libraries, institutional management and staff development, with the aim of having some activities under way by next February.

Both the support scheme and the new emphasis on basic education mark a move away from the preoccupation with student fees that has characterised the last three ministerial meetings, but the issue still lurks in the background of Commonwealth debates.

Some ministers in Barbados still could not come to terms with Britain's new relationship with Europe, both west and east. Preferential fee levels for European Community students have always rankled, and new scholarship schemes for east Europeans have rubbed salt into the wound.

Chief Emeke Anyoku, the new Commonwealth secretary general, spoke at the opening of the conference of the "great deal of unhappiness" that still surrounded British fee levels. "We find it absurd, for example, that a Caribbean student from the French island of Martinique can study in Britain, by way of France, at home fees, while a Barbados student has to study at overseas student prices," he said. He did not expect the policy to change.

Initiatives such as Chess are seen as possible alternative methods of attracting aid from Britain and the richer Commonwealth nations for third world higher education. Concerted efforts to improve basic education will be even more costly and less easily targeted.

Eastern Europe may continue to steal the limelight, but British politicians will not be allowed to forget the equally pressing educational needs of older partners.

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INDEPENDENT EDUCATION

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Court of Appeal

Law Report November 5 1990

Court of Appeal

No appeal without interest in land One joint tenant can give valid notice

Region v Secretary of State for the Environment and Another, Ex parte Davies
Before Lord Justice Neill, Lord Justice Balcombe and Lord Justice Maugham
(Judgment October 23)

The occupier of a caravan stationed for several months in an abandoned quarry had not acquired an interest in that land and thus was not entitled under section 88 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 to appeal against the enforcement notice issued on her by the local planning authority.

The occupier, describing herself as having adopted "the travelling way of life", had not the necessary intention to establish title by adverse possession. The Court of Appeal so held in dismissing an appeal by the occupier, Rita Myra Davies, from the order of Mr Justice McCowan in May 1989 dismissing her application for judicial review of a decision letter from the Secretary of State for the Environment refusing to hear her appeal against an enforcement notice served on her by South Shropshire District Council.

Section 88(1) of the 1971 Act, substituted by section 1 of paragraph 1 of the Schedule to the Local Government and Planning (Amendment) Act 1981, and now re-enacted in

section 104 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990, provides:

"(1) A person having an interest in the land to which an enforcement notice relates may, at any time before the date on which it is to take effect, appeal to the secretary of state against the notice."

Mr Timothy A. Jones for the occupier, Mr Christopher Katkowski for the secretary of state, the planning authority did not appear.

LORD JUSTICE NEILL said that in 1987 the occupier, who described herself as having adopted the "travelling way of life", moved with her father and her son to a disused quarry at Bishop's Castle. They took up residence in two caravans.

In May 1988 the planning authority issued the enforcement notice requiring her to remove the caravans from the land and she submitted her appeal to the secretary of state.

The decision letter from the secretary of state dated September 2, 1988 to the occupier stated that it was not considered that she had an interest in the land to which the enforcement notice related and that in view of the requirements of section 88(1) of the 1971 Act, as amended, her appeal was not valid.

The judge decided that the

secretary of state was "right to conclude that [the occupier] had not established adverse possession of her caravan pitch. She was not in fact in adverse possession but was a mere trespasser and she did not therefore have an interest in the land."

Before the Court of Appeal it was virtually common ground that where a decision maker had to determine a preliminary issue as to jurisdiction to look at the matter afresh and to make up its own mind: it had to look at the evidence that had been before the secretary of state when he made his decision.

The issue thus was whether the occupier had an interest in the land on September 2, 1988. She did not claim paper title but said that she was in adverse possession of it and that that was enough.

It was conceded by the secretary of state, for the purposes of the instant case only, that if the occupier could show that she was in adverse possession then she had an interest in the land within the meaning of section 88(1).

There were two modern authorities giving guidance on what amounted to adverse possession.

In *Powell v McFarlane* (1979) 38 P & CR 452, 476-7 Mr Justice Slade enunciated the

principles to be applied and in *Buckinghamshire County Council v Moran* (1989) 13 WLR 1533 the Court of Appeal specifically approved those principles and indicated additionally that a claimant did not have to show any intended ownership of the land, possession being enough, and further, that it was not inconsistent with a claim of adverse possession that there might be circumstances in which the claimant would go out of possession.

The occupier argued that the evidence established her intention to remain on the land and she relied on the *Moran* decision. There was force in her submissions but in the light of all the circumstances she had not shown adverse possession as a matter of law.

She referred in her letters to having a "travelling way of life" and to being a gypsy. An offer that she had made to pay rent was inconsistent with her claim. Further, no steps had been taken to evict any part of the land.

To establish adverse possession she had to show not only factual possession but also an *animus possidendi*. She had failed to do so and the secretary of state had reached the right decision.

LORD JUSTICE BALCOMBE gave a concurring judgment and Lord Justice Maugham agreed.

Solicitors: Thorp, Hereford, Treasury Solicitor.

Hammer Smith and Fulham London Borough Council v Mank
Barnet London Borough Council v Smith
Before Lord Justice Slade, Lord Justice Nicholls and Lord Justice Bingham
(Judgment October 12)

A notice to quit given by one of several joint tenants under a periodic tenancy had the effect of bringing that tenancy to an end even if the notice was given without the authority of any other tenant.

The decision in *Greenwich London Borough Council v McGruddy* (1982) 267 EG 515 was applied.

The Court of Appeal so stated in allowing an appeal by the London Borough of Hammer Smith and Fulham from an order of Judge Roger Cooke in the Westminster County Court on February 15, 1990 whereby he dismissed their claim for possession of the ground floor flat at 35 Nilton Street, Fulham and in dismissing an appeal by Mr James Martin Smith from an order of Mr A. A. Coyne, sitting as an assistant recorder in Barnet County Court on June 5, 1990 whereby he dismissed Mr Smith's appeal against an order of a registrar refusing to set aside a council house for possession of a council house at 115 Alexandra Road, Muswell Hill.

Mr Paul Steadon for Mr Smith, Mr Mark Scratchman, QC for Mr Lincoln Crawford for Hammer Smith and Fulham, Mr Anthony Radevsky for Mr Smith, Mr Charles Salter for Barnet.

LORD JUSTICE SLADE said that the two appeals raised common questions: whether under the general law, in the absence of a provision to the contrary in a tenancy agreement, a notice to quit given by one of two joint tenants under a periodic tenancy, without the authority of the other, had the effect of bringing the tenancy to an end. In one case that had been answered by the court below in the affirmative, in the other case in the negative.

Submissions that the decision in *McGrady*, namely, that a notice to quit given by one of several joint tenants under a periodic tenancy brought the tenancy to an end, was *per incuriam* were largely based on cogent criticisms of the decision in a long and learned article by Mr Frank Webb in *The Conveyancer* (volume 47 (1983) pp194-210).

In summary that said that Sir John Donaldson, Master of the Rolls, in *McGrady* did not think it necessary to examine the case law in detail because he thought that could, for practical purposes, be taken from *Leak and Moorlands Building Society v Clark* (1952) 2 QB 788.

However, in that case the nature of a periodic tenancy was not in issue and the relevant provisions of the Law of Property Act 1925 were not more than *obiter dicta*. Furthermore they were, it was

said, based on two fundamental misconceptions, first as to what was decided in the nineteenth-century cases, and second, as to the nature of a periodic tenancy.

The nineteenth-century cases and in particular *Doe v Astin* & *Finch v Summerson* (1830) 1 B & Ad 135, it was submitted, were based on reasoning which, even if correct in law at the time, was not applicable following the enactment of the Law of Property Act 1925 which, by sections 34 and 36, now made it impossible for undivided shares to exist in legal estate in land, such as a lease, and required that such shares should subsist merely as equitable interests behind a trust for sale.

It was submitted that the reasoning of the decision in *Doe v Astin* was wrong, or at least suspect under the pre-1926 law, but certainly could not apply since 1925, when a lease by joint landlords was unquestionably one joint grant and not a set of separate grants.

Thus the statement in *Doe v Astin* that "the tenant holds the whole of all so long as he and all shall please" to which Lord Justice Somervell and subsequently Sir John Donaldson attached such importance, was based on reasoning which, if it was ever correct, could not apply since 1925.

LORD JUSTICE SOMERVELL in *Leak and Moorlands*, in holding that rights held jointly could only be surrendered jointly, distinguished *Doe v Astin* not on that ground, but on the ground that the decision had established a principle applicable to notices under a periodic tenancy given either by

one joint landlord or one joint tenant, but not to surrenders or break notices.

The principle was that service of a notice to quit under a periodic tenancy was equivalent to the failure to exercise an option to renew. As Lord Justice Somervell accepted, the exercise of an option to renew undoubtedly had to be a joint act, a positive act was required to cause the new tenancy to arise. Similarly, with a surrender or break notice, a joint positive act was needed to cause the tenancy to terminate.

It was said, however, that Lord Justice Somervell, whose reasoning was subsequently adopted by the court in *McGrady*, erred in drawing the analogy between a notice to quit a periodic tenancy and an option to renew. The true analogy, it was said, was between a notice to quit under a periodic tenancy and a notice taking advantage of a break clause.

So far as appeared from the reports the line of cases exemplified by *Gray v Spear* (1922) 2 Ch 22 were not drawn to the attention of the court in *Leak and Moorlands* and *McGrady*.

That, it was submitted, led both courts to misinterpret the nature of a periodic tenancy and to overlook the fact that a periodic tenancy continued to exist from the time of the original grant unless and until it was determined by a notice to quit and that, in the eyes of the law, there was not a notional reletting at the commencement of each new period.

His Lordship was impressed by at least some of those submissions, in particular that

the true analogy was between a notice to quit and a notice taking advantage of a break clause.

Their Lordships did not know what authorities had been cited to the court in *McGrady* or what arguments were addressed to it. However, whatever course those arguments took, his Lordship was not prepared to assume that the members of the court did not have in mind either the relevant effect of the Law of Property Act 1925 or that the relevant *dicta* of Lord Justice Somervell in *Leak and Moorlands* were *obiter*.

The court in *McGrady*, in his Lordship's judgment, faced with a general question of law as to which there was no binding authority, so that it was free to decide the question either way.

It should be observed that acceptance of the contrary view to that taken by the court in *McGrady* would mean that one joint lessee under a periodic tenancy, even as short as a weekly tenancy, could find himself exposed to obligations to pay rent and to perform the other tenant's obligations for an indefinite period of time unless he or she could persuade the other lessee to join in serving a notice to quit.

In his Lordship's judgment *McGrady* could not be regarded as a decision given *per incuriam*.

LORD JUSTICE NICHOLLS delivered a concurring judgment and Lord Justice Bingham agreed with Lord Justice Slade.

Solicitors: Oliver O. Fisher & Co, Kensington; Mr Cornelious T. Mahon for Hammer Smith and Fulham; Mr R. C. Barrow, Barnet; Mr G. R. L. Cree, Barrow.

Suspect has no right to investigation details

Ex parte Nadir
Before Mr Justice Steyn
(Judgment October 11)

A party under investigation by the Serious Fraud Office had no legal right to information concerning the construction of questions which were being investigated or which might form the basis for a prosecution.

Mr Justice Steyn so held in the Queen's Bench Division when refusing an *ex parte* application by Mr Asil Nadir for leave to apply for judicial review.

[On November 1, on a renewed *inter partes* application, the Queen's Bench Divisional Court (Lord Justice Taylor and Mr Justice Morland) granted the leave sought.]

Mr Edward Rumbler for Mr Nadir.

MR JUSTICE STEYN said that the applicant was under investigation by the Serious Fraud Office (SFO). He made an application for leave to apply for judicial review contending that he was entitled to an order directing the Director of the SFO to supply to him short particulars of transactions in respect of which the SFO suspected that he might have been guilty of criminal conduct.

He was chairman and chief executive of Polly Peck International plc and had been under investigation since September 20 when he was questioned at the SFO premises.

Mr Nadir said he was not guilty of any criminal conduct and wanted to provide such evidence as he could to the SFO in order to rebut the suspicions surrounding him and Polly Peck but he was unable to supply such evidence unless he was given short particulars of transactions in respect of which criminal conduct was suspected. In the meantime the investigation was causing him great personal and financial harm.

It was not suggested that the Director of the SFO was acting beyond her powers in commencing or continuing the investigation.

Mr Nadir's application was a narrow one. He wanted particulars of the transactions under investigation in order that he could produce his answer to any suspicions or allegations.

Mr Nadir based his application on the asserted proposition that natural justice demanded that a person under investigation should be given the opportunity to dispel the suspicions entertained against him by the SFO.

A moment's reflection would show the far reaching consequences which would follow if the relief sought were granted. If the proposition were sound, why should a man being interviewed by the police under the provisions of the Police and Criminal Evidence Act 1984 about a conspiracy to commit burglary not be entitled to an order that the police provide

him with particulars of the burglaries in which they suspected he had been involved?

Admittedly there was the difference that the suspected burglar would not be obliged to answer questions, while under section 2(2) of the Criminal Justice Act 1987 there was no, so called, right of silence.

But that was not a material distinction because Mr Nadir wanted to volunteer evidence to clear his name.

Yet it would be preposterous to suggest that the suspected burglar was entitled to such particulars. Any such rule would be quite unworkable. The answer was that his interests were protected by the provisions of the 1984 Act.

It was manifest that a criminal investigation was immensely damaging yet it was clear that an accused had no right to be heard on the issue (*R v Leicester Crown Court, Ex parte DPP* (The Times June 19, 1987)).

It followed that Mr Nadir had no legal right to be heard on the question whether an investigation should be commenced or continued nor had he a legal right to be heard on the question whether criminal charges should be brought.

It would be extraordinary if Mr Nadir did have a legal right to particulars of the investigation in order to dispel any suspicion. Such a duty would postulate a correlative legal

obligation on the part of the Director of the SFO to consider representations made by Nadir to the effect that the investigation should be discontinued.

The functions of the SFO were in no sense adjudicative: the relevant functions were inquisitorial, albeit in the social rather than the Spanish sense. The decisions to investigate and, if thought necessary, to prosecute were preliminary decisions.

If a prosecution resulted, the defendant had an absolute right to a fair trial, buttressed by specific protections enshrined in statute and common law.

The principle of fairness did not therefore demand that there should be a right of hearing on such preliminary decisions and it would be unworkable to impose a duty to give a hearing on such preliminary decisions. Similarly it would be unworkable to impose a duty on the Director of the SFO to supply particulars.

It was relevant to bear in mind that under section 1(2) of the 1987 Act the Director discharged his duties under the supervision of the Attorney-General who was accountable not only to the courts but to Parliament.

That feature of the statutory scheme also suggested that the proposed judicial intrusion in the investigation process was not contemplated by the framers.

Solicitors: Vizards.

Power to decide occupation point

Nolan v Leeds City Council
Before Lord Justice Slade, Lord Justice Nicholls and Lord Justice Farquharson
(Judgment October 26)

The county court had jurisdiction to determine whether or not a property was a house in multiple occupation for the purposes of appeals brought under the Housing Act 1985. A householder disputing that matter was not alleging a challenge to the powers of the council exercising its authority to proceed by way of judicial review.

The Court of Appeal so held in a reserved judgment dismissing an appeal by Leeds City Council from the decision, on a preliminary issue of law, by Judge Barr-Young in Leeds County Court in May 1989 that he had jurisdiction to decide whether a house occupied by Mr Patrick Nolan was in multiple occupation within the meaning of section 345 of the 1985 Act.

Mr Andrew Arden and Miss Linda Pearce for the council; Mr Charles Cross for Mr Nolan.

LORD JUSTICE SLADE said that the issue concerned appeals from the purported exercise of certain powers conferred on local housing authorities by the 1985 Act relating to houses in multiple occupation.

In 1988 Mr Nolan gave notice of appeal to the county court against notices served on him under sections 352, 358, 366, 370 and 372 of the Act, contending that the house at 30 Ash Road, Hensley, was not in multiple occupation.

The council pleaded that the county court had no jurisdiction to determine the issue and that to raise it in those proceedings was opposed to an application by way of judicial review which was contrary to public policy and/or an abuse of process.

The essence of the council's case was that Mr Nolan's objection to the notices and order amounted to a denial of the council's power to issue or make them and that a challenge of that nature alleging *ultra vires* could only be raised by way of an application for judicial review.

Mr Arden contended that the wording of sections 352, 367, 371 and 373 was not wide enough to confer on Mr Nolan a right of appeal to the county court on the ground that the property was not a house in multiple occupation.

He further contended that whether or not the wording was wide enough, the prosecution of an appeal under any of those five subsections based on such ground would be an abuse of the process of the court.

Both arguments were rejected. It was accepted that the council was not intending to be merely obstructive in seeking to restrict the scope of an appeal but there was no sufficient reason why a householder such as Mr Nolan who had arguable points relating both to the council's power to serve a notice and to the grounds on which it was served, should be compelled to forgo his statutory right of appeal and to undertake the expense and inconvenience of judicial review proceedings.

LORD JUSTICE NICHOLLS and Lord Justice Farquharson agreed.

Solicitors: Mr David A. Anstee, Leeds; Bury & Walkers, Leeds.

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The warriors' wives in waiting

Will the fate of those still missing in action in the Vietnam war soon be discovered?

James Bone reports

On October 10, 1972, Barbara Cleary O'Connor's first husband flew his last mission over North Vietnam. His task was one of the riskiest in the war — to fly solo at tree-top level spotting targets for other planes. As he made his way back to base, his colleagues put a bottle of champagne on ice to celebrate his completion of more than 100 missions. But he never returned.

Captain Peter Cleary, aged 28, disappeared from radar over the North Vietnamese jungle just 15 minutes before he was due to touch down. His last radio contact was to call in a squadron of navy planes to attack an enemy target.

"The day he was shot down, I had a very strange, disjointed feeling that something had happened," says Mrs O'Connor, then aged 26 and living with her two children near Clark US Air Force Base in the Philippines. "Of course, I did not know what had happened, but when I look back I think it was connected somehow."

Like thousands of Americans who were married or related to servicemen who went missing in action (MIA) or were taken prisoner of war in Vietnam, Mrs O'Connor has learnt to cope with her loss and — until recently — the almost total lack of information about her husband's fate. But now the rapprochement between the United States and Vietnam, spurred by the withdrawal of Vietnamese troops from Cambodia, promises to end the uncertainty. After last month's trip to Washington by a Vietnamese leader, the two sides have renewed efforts to discover what happened to the American servicemen who disappeared in Indochina.

Senate investigators are also reported to be examining evidence that thousands of United Nations Command troops — including dozens of Britons — captured during the Korean war, nearly 40 years ago, may still be alive in the Soviet Union and China.

For Mrs O'Connor, the United States-Vietnam dialogue has already yielded fruit. After 17 years of silence, last year she received what is known as a "refugee report" containing information from a Vietnamese who had left the country. The



One of the lucky ones: the famous moment when Robert Strim, a released prisoner of war, was met by his family on his arrival home in 1973

"The day he was shot down, I had a very strange, disjointed feeling that something had happened"

report contained a rubbing of a "dog-tag" — the identification medallion that American servicemen wear around their necks — which bore her husband's details. Since then, three more refugee reports have mentioned her husband's case and the Pentagon has informed her that the Vietnamese government may be leaking the information deliberately, to use in future negotiations.

"The goal for me has always been to get his remains returned, because they can often tell from investigating remains what happened," says Mrs O'Connor. "Obviously, after all these years we still wonder what happened."

Now I really have the prospect that maybe there are remains. It's an odd feeling, but we are excited because — as grotesque as that is — it might answer some questions. It would be nice just to have it over with and his remains buried here. Ironically, it is the absence of information about her husband that what allowed Mrs O'Connor

to emerge unscathed. Unlike many wives of what are now known as MIA/POWs, she never had much hope that Captain Cleary had survived, and that enabled her to get on with her life. She took Sean, her son, and Paige, her daughter, back to America, and settled in Massachusetts, where Paige now goes to the same

university her father did. And, in the end, she remarried. "I did not date for a couple of years," she recalls. "It was a difficult thing to come to the conclusion on your own that your husband was not going to come back."

Not until 1979 — seven years after Captain Cleary's disappearance — was she able to remarry. At that time, the American military held a series of hearings on all the outstanding MIA/POW cases. All except one were declared "presumed dead", a move intended to allow their spouses to remarry. Even so, most of the women still active in the search for their

STILL SEARCHING: 15 YEARS ON

Last month the United States allowed a Vietnamese leader to visit Washington for the first time since the end of the Vietnam war 15 years ago.

In an unprecedented move, the State Department lifted a visa restriction limiting Nguyen Co Thach, Vietnam's foreign minister, to within 23 miles of the United Nations in New York, so that he could travel south for a day to the capital. The purpose of Mr Thach's landmark visit was to discuss the fate of American servicemen who went missing in action or were taken prisoner of war during the Vietnam war — an emotional issue put back on the political agenda by Ronald Reagan.

The United States estimates there are 2,296 Americans still missing in Indochina after the Vietnam war, 1,677 of them in Vietnam.

Mr Thach met key Congressmen and General John Vessey, the former chairman of the US Joint Chiefs of Staff appointed as the special negotiator on MIA/POWs by President Reagan three years ago.

Eager for the normalisation of relations with the United States and an end to the 15-year trade embargo, Mr Thach agreed to increase his government's cooperation in the search for Americans who never returned from his country.

Relations between Vietnam and the United States have improved since Washington, which has no formal diplomatic ties with Hanoi, announced in June that it would open an official dialogue with its old enemy about a peaceful settlement in Cambodia. New efforts are under way to uncover more information about the missing American servicemen. Two more missions to

Vietnam are expected soon, and Vietnam has floated the idea of a permanent United States office in Hanoi.

The United States and Vietnam have carried out 11 joint investigations since General Vessey first visited Hanoi in August 1987 as President Reagan's special envoy. Staff from the Central Identification Laboratory and the Joint Casualty Resolution Centre in Hawaii have excavated crash sites, examined bones and interviewed villagers who might have information about missing Americans.

But representatives of the National League of Families of American Prisoners and Missing in Southeast Asia complain that, until now, Vietnam has not shown full cooperation. "We know that Vietnam has an incredible amount of information that they simply have not made available to us," says Betsy Cox, a league spokeswoman. She says that Vietnam has detailed archives on wartime incidents ranging from fire-fights to crashed aircraft that could help to locate the remains of missing Americans.

United States officials are also puzzled as to why Vietnam has not yet released a number of remains that are believed to have been kept in warehouses. In all, 287 sets of remains of American personnel have been returned or recovered. The most recent batch of 20 was delivered in September. The previous shipment of 10 sets was returned in April and proved to be non-American.

Vietnam contends that no American servicemen remain under its control, although it does not rule out the possibility that some may be living in the jungle, like the Japanese soldiers who emerged years after the end of world war two.

missing husbands have stayed single, according to Barbara Cox, a spokeswoman for the League of Families of American Prisoners and Missing in Southeast Asia, which has some 3,600 members. "You cannot go forward with your life, and if you do then the person you go with is always looking over their shoulder worrying he is going to come back," says Maureen Dunn, whose navy-pilot husband, Commander Joseph Dunn, was shot down in 1968.

The theme was exploited by Hollywood in last year's *Welcome Home*, in which Kris Kristofferson, playing a character who was missing in action for 17 years, returns to find his wife with another husband.

The wife of the one man still listed as missing or captured in Indochina, air force Colonel Charles Shelton, who was shot down during a mission over Laos in 1965, eventually found the

uncertainty too much. Last month, Dorothy Shelton, a 57-year-old mother of five who helped found the national movement of MIA/POW families, killed herself at her home in California.

Reflecting on the "presumptive finding of death" (PFOD) delivered on her first husband, Mrs O'Connor says: "I was ready for it at that time, although it was still a very emotional process to go through. It was a very strange moment."

After the hearing, she married Dennis O'Connor, a lawyer. A father of three himself, he also served in the military and has supported her efforts to obtain the return of Captain Cleary's remains. "There are probably some second husbands who have difficulty dealing with this," she says. "It is very difficult to deal with the ghost of someone who was loved. There are people who believe that it is not possible to love a husband and then to love another, but it definitely is."

Twin peaks of success

At the age of 22, Jennifer Lynch is fluent, self-possessed and already extremely successful. *The Secret Diary of Laura Palmer*, her novel spinoff from *Twin Peaks*, the cult series conceived, part-written and part-directed by her father David, has been on the American best-seller list since its publication three months ago, and British bookshops are stocking copies in huge quantities. She is also about to direct her first feature film, *Boxing Helena*, a psychological thriller, for which she wrote the screenplay.

Ms Lynch's self-confidence probably owes much to the fact that she was an unplanned baby, born when her father was only 22 years old, and her mother, Peggy Reasey, was 21. Her parents were both art students and unprepared

Jennifer Lynch, daughter of the famous David, wants to be judged on her own merits as a writer and director

for a child. "They were very young emotionally; we all grew up simultaneously," Ms Lynch says. "I had a lot of work to do as a kid; my parents needed as much nurturing as I did."

She was born with club feet. In *Eraserhead*, the film which established him as a film director, her father portrayed the slide into madness of a man whose girlfriend

gives birth to a deformed baby. But Ms Lynch refuses to be cast down by her father's public beating. "Eraserhead" might have been triggered by events in David's life, but the film is emphatically not about his relationship with me."

Ms Lynch was placed in a cast up to her waist when she was born, had a major operation at the age of four and wore orthopaedic shoes until she was 12. "This all sounds pretty miserable, but the result of this is that I have a very strong relationship with both my parents," she says. "All the same, I know that having a baby too early hurts parents, and certainly hurts the child. I plan to have children when I am ready. I do not want to be surprised."

Two years after their marriage, the Lynch parents moved to Los Angeles. "We were completely poor," Ms Lynch says. "I never want to have children unless there is a bedroom upstairs, money in the bank and enough financial security for me to take a couple of years off to look after them."

Her parents divorced when she was aged seven, but Ms Lynch insists she had a happy childhood. "Someone was always painting or telling stories; the house was full of creativity. My parents were not acquisitive, so there was no sense of being deprived."

"I concentrated on keeping relationships with both my parents as good as and as pure as I could. I lived with my mother, but my father lived just around the corner, and we would all meet for coffee. My parents are still good friends."

Ms Lynch grew up "on David's sets". (She calls him David when speaking of him professionally. Dad to his face, and "my father" when discussing her childhood.) Writing a screenplay immediately after she finished school probably seemed less preposterous to her than it might to other teenagers; no doubt it was also easier to sell. But she is sensitive to any accusation of nepotism: "I have been very lucky, but I have worked very hard. I know that I have got where I have on the back of my work, not just because I'm David's daughter."

She says she was offered the opportunity to write *The Secret Diary of Laura Palmer* without her father or Mark Frost, his writing partner on *Twin Peaks*, being informed first. The *Diary* is the latest in a line of *Twin Peaks* spinoffs, which now include cherry pie, coffee, and the "tapes" of Dale Cooper, the FBI agent



Laura Palmer's diary: the book took Jennifer Lynch four days

investigating the murder of Laura Palmer in the series. A *Twin Peaks* computer game is planned for next year.

"The people at Lynch/Frost realised there was this woman [Laura Palmer] everyone needed to know about, but she was already dead," Ms Lynch says. "Fortunately" she was smart enough to keep two diaries — the one found right at the beginning of the first series, and this one, found

in the second series. The book stands alone, but for *Peaks* enthusiasts there is the attraction of reading it along with the characters.

Ms Lynch wrote the diary in four days, after thinking herself into the part for six weeks. "Laura is so 180 degrees different from myself — heavy duty into drugs and promiscuous sex. I had to become possessed by this person, who lived a sordid life because she felt she had no alternative; she believed she was bad."

The diary is a catalogue of cocaine, orgies, murder, night-

mares and near-madness — all ultimately attributable to some one named (always in capital letters) BOB, who appears to have systematically sexually abused Laura. Ms Lynch will only say of BOB that he figures in the first series and will be unmasked in the second.

The diary does not make jolly reading, which begs the question of whether Ms Lynch's film will mimic her father's in always seeing the skull beneath the skin. "I think I have been at least as much influenced by my mother, who is a wonderful painter, and has just finished her first novel," she says. "I want to direct films which send people out afterwards for coffee and conversation rather than hamburgers and a nap. I think they will be completely different from David's."

Growing up has clearly not been entirely smooth for Ms Lynch, but she appears to have emerged unscathed and confident of her own talents. She is engaged to Donald Tella, a stage manager for rock bands and a drama technician, and wants to direct films, write novels and raise children. She is, she says, "living proof that you can be a surprise child from a divorced family and still be very lucky."

GERALDINE BEDELL

Twin Peaks is shown on BBC2 on Tuesdays (9pm) with a repeat on Saturdays. *The Secret Diary of Laura Palmer* is published by Penguin Books (£3.99).

Howe and when to call it a day

Connoisseurs of the delicate art of political resignation are having the time of their lives

SIR Geoffrey Howe's resignation letter last week, and Margaret Thatcher's reply, are no doubt shot through with coded messages, sufficient to keep a Whitehall watcher occupied for a week. But for the rest of us they appear to be pretty boring, except for the apparent difference of temperature in the signatures: "Yours ever, Geoffrey Howe" and "Yours ever, Margaret".

That "Howe" smacks of child formality, Sir Geoffrey getting his retaliation in last. Unless, that is, the pedantic deputy prime minister thought dear Margaret might mix him up with some other Geoffrey.

But how best to resign? At least one editor for whom I worked would have regarded Sir Geoffrey's four pages as a basis for negotiation. Certainly he dismissed a one-page epistle from me as such. "All right, what do you want?" he asked. "Nobody who really wants to leave writes more than two paragraphs."

Sir Geoffrey's resignation is, of course, above the suspicion of being a mere ploy, unless we're about to discover that he is to become deputy prime minister, say, France.

Among my favourite resignations are the "spur of the moment" ones that have been carefully planned. Like Michael Heseltine's departure over Westland nearly five years ago, when he came flouncing out of a cabinet meeting for all the world like a man who had leapt to his feet crying: "I can take no more of this." A few hours later he read the media a long speech which smacked of the same gesture period as a Peter Ackroyd biography.

Autobiography better describes modern political resignations. These things are political position papers. Clearly there was no need for Sir Geoffrey to explain to Mrs Thatcher what he thinks about Europe: she is all too aware of that. So his letter, and her reply, were aimed jointly at the public and posterity and timed for maximum impact. His resignation broke on the Press Association wire at 6.58pm, just in time for the first editions, perfect timing for the main television news.

So there is clearly not much emotion left in political resignation, solicited or unsolicited. Nor is there much sign that lurking behind the measured words lies a more fiery scenario, such as the one between Clement Attlee, the post-war Labour prime minister, who asked a minister for his resignation and, when the minister asked why, replied: "No good at the job." Eric Hobsbawm said: "The most famous resignation delivered to Attlee was not one he solicited. Aneurin Bevan resigned from the cabinet in 1951 in protest at the introduction of charges for spectacles and false teeth, and more money for defence, in that year's budget. Bevan's letter was one page long. Attlee's reply five sentences, as compared with four pages from Sir Geoffrey and one from Mrs Thatcher. Indignation is everywhere."

GEORGE Howe was the most notorious political resigner. He was asked to resign; it only took a week for him to get the Labour cabinet in 1907 after writing a letter to Herbert Asquith which did not quite contain his resignation. The prime minister recalled in his diary: "Gpm; letter from George not specifically resigning. Reply drafted on basis it was a resignation."

He sent a message to Brown saying he would regard the letter as a resignation unless he heard differently, and soon. There was no response and so Brown went. "Now these things are more organised, more clinical. Enter Hugo Nye, a Belgian behavioural psychologist working in London, who says: 'four hours with an individual is enough time for him to work out whether a person is or is not a resigner. It is to do with personality traits.' Mr Nye said: 'Winners and losers: flexibility versus rigidity. Resigners tend to be people who find their position in conflict with their deep inner value systems.'

"At high levels, in politics or business, you have stars and loyal lieutenants. Stars are unique, special people. A chief executive has to have the right balance of stars and lieutenants, but of course if the chief executive is the only star, then you have a special problem."

A reference perhaps to Mrs Thatcher? "Oh goodness, no, I would not dream of making such a judgment."

PETER BARNARD

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THEATRE

Between the sublime and the gross

Jim Hiley on how the Holocaust is being turned into drama on British stages

What is the least suitable subject for treatment in the theatre? An answer of sorts was provided in Mel Brooks' film of 1968, *The Producers*. Zero Mostel plays a devious impresario who stages a musical, *Springtime For Hitler*, confidently expecting that it will lose money. Even today, Mostel's extravagance seems the epitome of bad taste. Putting Hitler and Nazism on stage tests the limits of drama's capacities — with or without musical numbers.

Yet the horrors of the Nazi era have been much in evidence of late in theatrical forms ranging from vaudeville to remorseless naturalism. Questions are thus raised by our real-life producers. If the Holocaust can be dramatised, for example, can anything be excluded?

The National led the way last year with *Ghetto*, which recalls the wartime persecution of Jews in Lithuania. Joshua Sobol's play was followed in January by a revival of *Bent*, which shows the fate of homosexuals in the death camps. Currently, at the Riverside Studios, Hammersmith, George Tabori's *Mein Kampf: Force* speculates on the Führer's early life in Vienna. With its slapstick and surrealism, Tabori's play might almost be a prequel to *Springtime For Hitler*. More solemnly, the career of one of Hitler's lieutenants is recounted in *Brother Eichmann* by Heiner Kipphardt, which opens tomorrow at Manchester's Library Theatre.

None of the dramatists has seized on Nazism with wilful opportunism. In fact, they have compelling reasons for avoiding the topic altogether. Joshua Sobol is Jewish. Martin Sherman, the author of *Bent*, is both Jewish and homosexual. George Tabori's father died in Auschwitz. By contrast, the late Heiner Kipphardt belonged to a "German

School" of documentary dramatists who confronted the worst excesses of recent history.

Audiences with direct experience of Nazism are especially receptive to plays on the subject. *Ghetto* first appeared at the Haifa Theatre, Israel. *Mein Kampf: Force* is the most frequently performed contemporary play in the German-speaking theatre.

In a sense, British theatre is now catching up with a trend. If our audiences resist it, it may be because we escaped invasion, and so Nazism is more remote in our imagination. Perhaps we prefer to cherish our existing memories and suspect dramatists of seeking to exorcise the past — or, worse, to revise it. Their intentions are more scrupulous, however.

Part of the purpose is to make things real for people who were not there, says the playwright David Lan, who adapted *Ghetto* for English audiences. Even so, productions like *Ghetto* and *Bent* are fraught with danger. They re-enact atrocities in an art form which is by its nature voyeuristic. *Ghetto* takes realism a step further, including as it does more than a dozen folk songs and cabaret numbers. These were actually performed by a theatre troupe which flourished at the time in Lithuania. But some members of the audience found the razzmatazz offensive and trivialising.

Lan argues that music gives *Ghetto* "heart and power". In *Springtime For Hitler*, the songs jolly Nazism; in *Ghetto*, they are a symbol of defiance. Moreover, they reach out to the spectator, making it hard to view the events as a remote historical aberration. People do not tap their toes in a museum. Nor do they, moments later, freeze with horror.

Mein Kampf: Force and *Brother Eichmann* take a different kind of risk by poring over the Nazi psyche. In these plays, the charac-



The National Theatre production of *Ghetto*, adapted by David Lan: re-enacting atrocities in an art form which is by its nature voyeuristic

ters could acquire an inappropriate humanity, not least because they are represented by flesh-and-blood actors. In the theatre, even the most egregious villain wins a modicum of audience sympathy, and neither Hitler nor Adolf Eichmann is presented as an out-and-out villain. Tabori's young Hitler is, for instance, a callow, accident-prone bumpkin, who resembles the despot of history only in the final moments.

Tabori explains that he wrote *Mein Kampf: Force* with the German public in mind, and this determined his subversive use of comedy. "Germans are in danger of seeing Hitler as an outside intrusion into their culture. I want to destroy the myth of a Nazi evil of which they were themselves victims. Hitler was a very recognisable German-Austrian figure." But is not Hitler's significance diminished if he is made familiar

and laughable? "A joke always has disaster at its heart. But I didn't want audiences to feel guilty. People who feel guilty are dangerous."

Rarely has Tabori been attacked for his portrait of Hitler. Controversy has risen, though, over the character of Scholomo Herzl, a Jewish bookseller who befriends Hitler in a Viennese doss-house. Audiences have complained that his behaviour puts Jews in an unfavourable light. Scholomo had a real-life precursor, Reinhold Hanisch. But Hanisch could not know what he — and Tabori — knew of Hitler's subsequent career. Very little can be justified on grounds of factual accuracy alone. The dramatist makes a selection of facts and a choice about how to recount them.

Similar issues are raised by *Brother Eichmann*. Kipphardt set

his play in 1960, when Eichmann was a prisoner of the Israelis. Under interrogation, he recites his chilling credo of obedience, appearing unable, or unwilling, to recognise that, as the organiser of transportation to the death camps, he was implicated in the slaughter that took place there. But by now, Eichmann is himself a captive. Chained and incarcerated, he could almost be seen as a victim. When he faces execution, the audience might feel sympathy.

The director, Chris Honer, admits the danger. "But the play does not whitewash Eichmann. It says that, if you make a system where people can see themselves as cogs, it is not productive to pick scapegoats. We want the audience to ask questions about how easily we can detach ourselves from what we do. I am confident this will happen."

Brother Eichmann is certain to

be followed by further plays about Nazism. Even if they were never staged, dramatists would continue to write them. Tabori says that, for years, he resisted making art out of the Holocaust. But his creative imagination was "haunted" by his father's ghost, and eventually he felt impelled to confront it. For Lan, an ability to deal with such issues is the mark of a mature theatre. "In a democracy, you can't proscribe subjects because they come too close to suffering. That's what art is about."

The seriousness of Lan and the other dramatists cannot be questioned. But the theatre is a precarious, collaborative form. One misjudged performance or an infelicitous design may distort a play entirely. The difference between success and failure — between the magnificence of *Ghetto* and the grossness of *Springtime For Hitler* — is perilously narrow.

BRIEFING

As long as it's Brahms

LONDON'S concertgoers have a wonderful choice of repertoire this week — provided they like Brahms. Consider the following bizarre list. Tomorrow at the Festival Hall the London Philharmonic performs Brahms's First and Second Symphonies, while at the Barbican the Leipzig Gewandhaus Orchestra plays ... Brahms's First and Second Symphonies. Wednesday is a comparatively light day: just Brahms's Violin Concerto at the Festival Hall. The Barbican strikes back on Thursday with Brahms's Third Symphony and First Piano Concerto. Then on Friday the Festival Hall audience hears Brahms's Third and Fourth Symphonies, while those at the Barbican will enjoy his Fourth Symphony and Second Piano Concerto. Did someone say competition can only increase consumers' choice?

Thousand nights

GLASSES were raised at Covent Garden on Saturday to William Kellaway, a sales assistant from Shirley, Southampton, who with his wife paid his one-thousandth visit to the Royal Opera House. With a party of friends they sat in the gallery to see Verdi's *Attila*. Kellaway has been going to opera and ballet at Covent Garden since August 31, 1951, and bought his first gallery ticket for 3s 6d to see *The Bohemian Girl* conducted by Sir Thomas Beecham.

Last chance ...

VACLAV Havel's architectural parlour play, *Revolutionary*, has already had its run at the Orange Tree, Richmond, extended for one week, and for its second and final week there is a cast change. David Timson, who played the time-serving Ullrich, has had to go off to the Birmingham Rep to rehearse the part of Mr Toad. Sam Walters, director of Havel's play, has donated Ullrich's white coat and will be revealing his rarely seen acting prowess this week at the Orange Tree (081-940 3633).

CINEMA DESIGN

Slapped wrists and dazzling screen images

Last week's release of *The Freshman* has brought the film designer Ken Adam back into prominence at home. Anna Kythreotis reports



Ken Adam: "I have always involved myself in the script"

The photographer's suggestion of including the Academy award in the portrait made Ken Adam frown. He began to assess the merits of the idea, then, ever affable and urbane, apologised for interfering. The camera had triggered a spontaneous reaction from the designer celebrated for creating some of the most memorable screen images of the last 40 years.

Generally acknowledged as the best production designer in the business, Adam has left his signature on what amounts to an inventory of important movies: seven Bond films, the Deighton films, *Dr Strangelove*, *Sleuth*, *Barry Lyndon* (the source of the Oscar), and about 50 others.

Significantly, his name has been absent from the credits of any British film for more than a decade. He has, he says simply, not been asked. Adam's isolation from British films is seen by some as the industry's slap on his wrists for being too successful. Critical acclaim, a succession of awards, media exposure of a kind unprecedented for a production designer

and the high-budget films with which he is associated have fixed him in the minds of British filmmakers as too expensive.

How far from the truth that misconception lies can be judged by his response when Ismail Merchant, probably the thriftiest producer in the history of film, asked him to design *The Deceivers*. "When Ismail told me what the production demanded, and what the budget was, it seemed so unrealistic that I had to do it. I was curious to see if it could be done."

The Royal Opera House received a similar response when, at Zubin Mehta's suggestion, Adam was invited to design the sets for Piero Fagnoli's production of *La Fanciulla del West*. "It appealed to me because I had never designed an opera before and in many aspects, because of the limitations imposed by the proscenium, one had to be even more inventive," he recalls the horror of watching a rehearsal of the last

act as Plácido Domingo and Carol Noble made their dramatic exit across Adam's cinematic stage, way and ran out of aria before running out of stairs. "I offered to make it smaller but Zubin said 'Don't worry — I can add a few more bars.'"

The challenges now come almost exclusively from America, but Adam continues to live in London. "I love this country, I love my home, but if you want to work you must be where the work is." Regardless of his approaching 70th birthday, Adam is still making films back to back. On completing Marlon Brando's latest film *The Freshman* (released last Friday), he began work in Berlin on the new Gene Hackman film *Dinosaur*, and witnessed the collapse of the Wall.

He speaks of the experience unemotionally, although Berlin is the city in which he was born and which he left at 13, when it became clear that Jews had no future

there. But growing up in what was then the cultural capital of the world left its mark; he knew he wanted to design and, on the advice of Vincent Korda, studied architecture at London University.

At the start of the war he was still considered an enemy alien: by the end, through characteristically dogged determination, Adam had become the only German fighter pilot in the RAF. After demobilisation he was given work on a film as a junior draughtsman and progressed rapidly; seven years later he received his first Academy award nomination for *Around the World in Eighty Days*.

From the beginning of his career Adam saw the function of a production designer as something more than a supplier of scenery. "I have always involved myself in the script, and look for opportunities to enhance the mood of a scene with certain visual ideas. In my experience there are few

writers who think in visual terms, and there is no reason why they should. But film is a visual medium and writers depend on designers to interpret the screenplay."

With the Bond films Adam went further. The essentially visual nature of the material gave him the impulse to abandon what was considered safe and instead dazzle audiences with larger-than-life concepts that increasingly came to dominate the films. His work on those films and the others he made during that period — "I never made two consecutive Bonds because I felt I had to return to the discipline of more 'normal' films in between" — influenced a generation of designers.

Adam credits his success to talent and luck but, above all, to his ability to communicate. "Film-making is so much a collaborative effort between artistic, and therefore often difficult, people. You need to be able to assert yourself continuously while behaving something like the foreign secretary — which can be exhausting."

THE TIMES EDUCATIONAL supplement

AFRAID OF MATHS?



Professor Celia Hoyles isn't.

She explains why when she presents *The Times Educational Supplement* awards for the best children's information books and a maths textbook this week. Read what she and the judges say.

THE TIMES EDUCATIONAL SUPPLEMENT Friday

TELEVISION

Heads frozen, bargain rates

THE sensation of being frozen alive, hitherto only widely available to viewers of *Twin Peaks*, was explored in considerably more detail for *Heart of the Matter* on BBC 1 last night by Joan Bakewell, who once wrote a good book on graves and was first glimpsed emerging from beneath one as if auditioning for some Hammer House of Horror midnight movie.

In the event her survey proved vastly more scientific than those of Peter Cushing or Christopher Lee, focusing on California where it would appear that several local visionaries have already had themselves popped into the deep-freeze to await thawing when medical science has improved.

Many will have been re-

assured by the scientist who noticed that it was not even necessary to shell out the full \$50,000 for a complete bodily freeze, since a mere \$20,000 would buy a frozen head to which a new body could be added at some later date. There are, however, certain problems beyond even Californian medical science: when they pop the body in the freezer they also replace all the blood with a kind of anti-freeze, thereby turning it from pink to a sort of amber. For this reason, explained a doctor solicitously, "patients are not available for viewing by relatives".

Less it should be thought that *The Loved One* lives only in California and the nightmares of Evelyn Waugh readers, Bakewell discovered a

thriving cryonics industry in Eastbourne, though as yet no patients there to alarm the local association of undertakers. There is, however, a freezing facility ready and waiting, and it too does a cheap rate if only the head is being preserved. Whether or not one could just have the ankles done for say £5,000 a time was not explained, and several experts noted that as preservation techniques do not always work even on kidneys, the chances of getting a whole body back to life are still pretty remote. Even if it did work, the body would then still be suffering from whatever it died of.

Heart of the Matter was only narrowly beaten as the funniest programme of the night by the return of Pete and Dud to BBC 2. At a time when BBC comedy chiefs are so terrified of critical response that they release review cassettes with all the alacrity of security men handing out gold bars from Fort Knox, it was unusually brave of them to dig Not Only ... But Also ... out of the 1970 archives as a reminder of how much funnier television was twenty years ago.

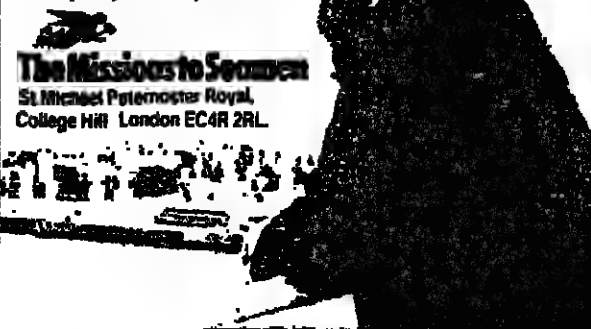
True, even the title seems to have caused the usual panic: in early billings the series is called *The Best of What's Left of Not Only But Also*, thereby acknowledging some missing tapes. But by the weekend, the *Radio Times* had deleted the *What's Left of*, so a complete run is unlikely.

Last night did include, however, the busy substances and the trip to the zoo, not to mention the philosophic notion that a person on the Chiswick Flyover with a very long tongue could kiss someone up the Staines Bypass.

SHERIDAN MORLEY

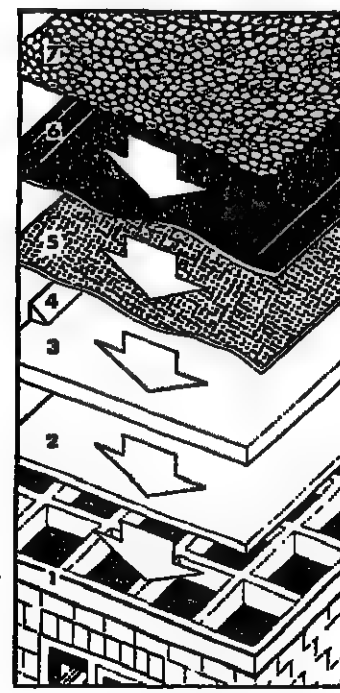
Loneliness is just one problem

And it is a fairly common problem for seafarers away from home for months at a time. But it is only one of the troubles that people bring to us. As a Christian society working among seafarers we are asked for all kinds of help: spiritual, emotional, social and practical. And we are there, ready to give all the help we can, in all parts of the world. To give this help we depend entirely upon voluntary contributions. Please help us to continue the Anglican Church's ministry to seafarers by a legacy, or please send whatever you can to The Missions to Seamen, Freeport, London, EC4A 4EP.



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TELEVISION & RADIO

COMPILED BY PETER DEAR AND GILLIAN MAXEY
● TELEVISION CHOICE PETER WAYMARK/RADIO CHOICE PETER DAVALL

6.00 **Celebrity**
6.30 **BBC Breakfast News** with Nicholas
Witchell and Ian Dando
6.50 **Daytime UK** presented by Alan
Titchmarsh and Judi Squires in
Birmingham and Adrian Mills in
Manchester
9.00 **News**, regional news and weather
9.05 **Brainwave**. Quiz game 9.25 **Diary
of the Day**. Culinary ideas from
Rosemary Moon
9.30 **People Today**. The lives of people
across the UK are viewed by Adrian
Mills and Judi Squires. Ronke Phillips
and the Open Line team tackle viewers'
questions and Lita Allet presents a
flower-arranging feature.
10.00 **News**, regional news and weather
10.05 **Children's BBC** introduced by
Simon Pegg begins with **Playdays**
10.25 **The Family News** (r).
10.35 **People Today**, including **Kitchen
Call** phone-in.
11.00 **News**, regional news and weather
11.05 **Kilroy** 11.45 **Before Noon**.
Includes the winner of this morning's
Brainwave
12.00 **News**, regional news and weather
12.05 **Afternoon Antiques Roadshow**
Gems. Hugh Stubbins introduces
classic clips from the **Antiques
Roadshow** archives featuring Arthur
Negus 12.20 **Scene Today**. The daily
entertainment programme from
Pablos with news features and
special guests. 12.55 **Regional news
and weather**

1.00 **One O'Clock News** with Philip
Hayton. Weather
1.30 **Neighbours**. (Ceejay) 1.50 **Going
for Gold**. Henry Kelly returns with the
quiz in which contestants from all
over Europe compete for the chance to
win a safari in Kenya
2.15 **The Six Million Dollar Man**: The
Blue Flash. The bionic man befriends a
young boy while investigating
smugglers on the waterfront
3.00 **Hudson and Hettie**. The camp Kiwi
cooks are joined by Leslie Crowther and
create two tasty desserts 3.25 **Head
of the Class**. American comedy set in a
classroom full of geniuses
3.50 **Fireman Sam** narrated by John
Alderton (r) 4.00 **A Bear Behind** 4.10
The Chipmunks 4.25 **Pigsty**.
Comedy series set in a pizza café 4.35
Thursday. Cartoon
4.55 **Newsround** 5.05 **Blue Peter**. Long-
running children's magazine (Ceejay)
5.25 **Neighbours** (r). (Ceejay) Northern
Ireland. Sportsweek 5.40 **Master
Chef** phone-in
6.00 **Six O'Clock News** with Peter
Sissons and Moira Stuart. Weather
6.30 **Regional News**. Weather
Northern Ireland. Neighbours
7.00 **Wogan**. Tonight's guests include
Oscar-winning actress Shirley Maclaine
and comic Henry Enfield
7.30 **Watchdog**. Lynn Faulds Wood and
John Stapleton present the consumer
magazine. Tonight's edition includes
the launch of National Consumer Week,
an item on child car seats and an
investigation into the electrical
retailers, Currys and Dixons, clear
with complaints from customers

8.00 **Telly Addicts**. The Waters family
from Blyth, Northumberland, meet the
Bones of Morden, Surrey
8.30 **Keeping Up Appearances**. The
second in the new comedy series by
Roy Clarke of *Last of the Summer
Wine* starring Patricia Routledge as a
snobbish suburban housewife who
goes to extraordinary lengths to make
her plans run smoothly. Routledge is
splendid but the joke seems thin.
(Ceejay)
9.00 **Nine O'Clock News** with Michael
Buerk. Regional news and weather
9.30 **Paranormal: The Price of Freedom**.
A year after the fall of the Berlin Wall,
and with the reunification of
Germany a reality, David Dimbleby
chairs a live debate from Potsdam,
Berlin, in which he is joined by
politicians, businessmen, students
and artists from eastern European
countries to discuss the issues that
face the new Germany, and the
implications for the rest of the
continent
10.30 **Mancuso FBI**. Robert Loggia stars
as the law and order man, faced with a
Czech woman doctor accused of
murder. Northern Ireland: 29 Bedford
Street 11.00 **Mancuso FBI**
11.20 **Help Your View** with reading
11.35 **Advice Shop** reports from Tovey,
North Wales, on the responses of
insurance companies and welfare
services to the February floods (r)
Northern Ireland: 11.45 **Help Your
View** with reading 12.00-12.30
Advice Shop
12.05 **Weather**

ITV LONDON
8.00 **TV-11**
8.25 **Keynotes**. Music game show hosted
by Astrid O'Dell 9.55 **Thames News**
and weather
10.00 **The Time... The Place...** John
Stapleton chairs a topical discussion
10.40 **This Morning**. Magazine presented
by Judy Finnigan and Richard Madeley
with cook Susan Brooks, wine expert
Charles Metcalfe and gardener Monty
Don. Includes national and
international news headlines at 10.55
and regional news headlines at
11.55 followed by national weather
12.05 **Rosie and Jim**. Series for the young,
presented by John Cuniffe 12.25
Home And Away. Australian soap
about a couple and their foster children
12.55 **Thames News** and weather
1.00 **News at One** and weather
1.20 **Thames Help**. A preview of the
week's *Thames Help* programmes
dealing with the care and welfare of
animals 1.50 **A Country Practice**.
Australian soap based on a rural
community health centre
2.20 **Magnum**. Tom Selleck stars as a
man of few words who gets his own
series. He goes shopping, has a meal
and meets a royal. Near-silent
comedy created by Akimov, Robin
Driscoll and Blackadder writer
Richard Curtis
3.50 **Bugs Bunny and Friends**. Cartoon
fun with the bearded rabbit (r) 4.20
The Scooby Show introduced by
Matthew Corbett 4.45 **Count Duckula**.
With the voice of David Jason
5.10 **Who's the Boss?** American comedy
about a housekeeper with a
woman boss
5.40 **News** and weather

5.55 **Thames Help**. This first in the
week's programmes on the care and
welfare of animals features Kay
Cutts, a dog handler and trainer
6.00 **Home and Away** (r)
6.30 **Thames News** and weather
7.00 **The Krypton Factor**. Television's
brain and brawn competition hosted by
Gordon Burns (Oracle)
7.30 **Coronation Street**. (Oracle)

9.00 **Film: All the Right Moves** (1983).
Generally pleasing American sports film
starring Tom Cruise as a high school
footballer dreaming of a better life away
from the grim Pennsylvania steel
town in which he lives. There is plenty of
off-pitch action in the shape of Lee
Thompson as Cruise's girlfriend who has
her own dream of success. Directed
by Michael Chapman. Continues after
the news
10.00 **News at Ten** and weather 10.30
Thames News and weather
10.40 **Film: All the Right Moves** continued
11.25 **Ice Skating**. The Skate Electric
British Championships, presented from
Basingstoke by Nick Owen. The
main event is the pairs free programme
with newcomers Catherine Barker
and Michael Adams starting for their first
title. There are also highlights of
the senior men's original and the
junior free dance. The commentators
are Simon Reed and Nicky Steiner.
Followed by **News** headlines
12.15 **Sam Sportsweek Extra**. Featuring the
Olympic Powerball (Grand Prix of
Bournemouth) and a round-up of
the weekend's football news from the
Balcys League and the Continent.
Followed by **News** headlines
1.15 **Film: Dark Victory** (1976). Inisipid
second remake of the classic Bette
Davis weepie about a woman dying
of a brain tumour whose last few months
are made worthwhile by the love of
her doctor. Elizabeth Montgomery stars
as the television producer with the
headache and Anthony Hopkins as the
neurologist with the winning bedside
manner. Directed by Robert Butler.
Followed by **News** headlines
4.00 **American College Football**.
Houston take on Baylor
5.00 **ITN Morning News**. Ends at 6.00

10.00 News
10.15 **Arthur Negus** enjoys the dining
room at Berkeley Castle (r)
8.30 **Daytime on Two** includes at 8.55
The story of David and Goliath, 10.40 An
exploration of Christianity 11.22 A
science drama for the young and at
12.25 **Middling** with a team stark
2.00 **News** and weather followed by
Storytime 2.15 **Songs of Praise** from
Southwold, Suffolk (r). (Ceejay) 2.50
Behind the Screen. A preview of the
new series of *My Bang My Bang?*
3.00 **News** and weather followed by The
Home Front. Continuing the six-part
series in which Patrick Nutter explores
the problems of housing the
nation (r). (Ceejay) 3.50 **News**,
regional news and weather
4.00 **Call My Bluff**. More verbal deceptions
under the urbane eye of Robin
Robinson (r)
4.30 **Behind the Headlines**.
● CHOICE: The two-time talk show,
with midweek reports on art workers
and invertebrates, returns for a longer,
ten-week run and there are two team
changes. The Monday slot on
national and international politics passes
from the abrasive Jeremy Paxman to the
glamorous Panorama reporter Jane
Corbin, while the Friday slot, which
used to be hosted by the chirpy
Sandi Toksvig. The third female
presenter, Beverly Anderson, continues
her Wednesday examinations of
social issues, science and arts. Which
leaves the male double acts of
Robert (the feisty) Robinson and
Loyd (the acerbic) Lloyds. The new
series of *My Bang My Bang?* is
presented by Paul Bunting and
Jeffrey Archer. In today's
programme Corbin discusses the hot
topic of Britain and Europe with
government spokesman Nicholas Ridley
and the Oxford historian Dr
Jonathan Clark.

6.00 **Film: The Spoilers** (1942, b/w)
starring Marlene Dietrich, John Wayne
and Randolph Scott. The well-
known tale of the Yukon during the
height of the gold rush, combining
romance, adventure and the obligatory
barroom brawl. Directed by Ray
Enright
6.25 **DEF 15**. Dance Energy. Fast-moving
programme on the UK dance scene 7.05
New Attributions. American comedy
series set in a beauty salon
7.30 **Open Space**. Scott Kopek the Pollen
Down.
● CHOICE: Shelia Shaw, the
daughter of a Sheffield steel worker,
takes over the community access
slot to present a disenchanted view of a
city trying to build a future on a new
project, an ethically sound and the
largest covered shopping centre in
Europe. Her fear is that these expensive
prestige developments will do little
for the poorer parts of the city where the
collapse of the steel industry has left
48 per cent unemployment and physical
and social degradation. The local
shops have been pulled down and the
new shopping centre is too far
away. Clive Betts, leader of the city
council, has an uphill job trying to
persuade sceptical residents that the
scheme, built for the world student
games, is also for them. Three amply-
built Sheffield women known as the
Chuffinettes provide, in rough-hewn
poetry and song, a lament for the
good old days when the soot from the
factories kept the pollen down.
(Ceejay). Wales: Tastes of Wales
8.00 **Abroad in Britain**. Jonathan Meades
continues his search for offbeat
architecture, tonight in Dorset, near
Fordingham air base and East Gristead.
(Ceejay)
8.30 **Nature: No Bushiness Like Green**.
Business. The Prince of Wales joins
leading businessmen and launches a
campaign to turn British business green.
(Ceejay)

Death of a martyr: Geoffrey Hutchings (5.00pm)
9.00 **Screenplay: Traitors**.
● CHOICE: A bonfire night play by a
Bucks writer Jimmy McGovern
explores an interpretation of the
Gunpowder Plot which provocatively
challenges the widely accepted
version. According to McGovern the
villain is not so much Guy Fawkes,
who becomes a marginal figure, but
Robert Cecil (Anson Leaver), chief
secretary of state and mouthpiece of the
Protestant establishment. Traitor
suggests that Cecil knew all about the
plot and deliberately encouraged it
as a means of pursuing his vendetta
against the Roman Catholic church.
Parallels with the situation in Northern
Ireland (a persecuted Catholic
minority and a debate about whether
they are at war with the British
opponents) are underlined when Cecil
not only, but twice, issues the order,
"shoot to kill". The other explicit
reference is to the Crucifixion as
Father Garnet (Geoffrey Hutchings), the
Catholic leader who opposed the
plot, goes to a martyr's death
10.00 **News** and weather
10.30 **Newsnight** with Peter Snow
11.15 **The Late Show**. Arts and media
magazine 11.35 **Weather**
12.00 **Behind the Headlines**. See 4.30.
Ends at 12.35am

CHANNEL 4
6.00 **The Art of Landscape**. Film of the
natural world accompanied by soothing
music
6.20 **Business Daily**
6.30 **The Channel Four Daily**
9.25 **Schools**
12.00 **Broken Silence: Meeting Seasons**.
The first in a Spanish documentary
series on animal behaviour (r)
12.30 **Business Daily**. Financial and
business news service presented by
Greg Wood
1.00 **Sesame Street**. Educational fun for
pre-school children
2.00 **Film: Men of Two Worlds** (1946).
Sincere but unconvincing semi-
documentary about the conflict
between science and superstition in
British East Africa. Eric Portman
gives a stalwart performance as the
district commissioner trying to
resolve a battle of wills between a black
Tanganyikan composer (Robert
Adamson) and a white doctor (Orlando
Martini). Shot in lush colour by
Desmond Dickinson and directed by the
unmilitated Thorold Dickinson
4.00 **Vintage: Sipping Stars**. Hugh
Johnson continues his series on the
story of wine with the history of
champagne (r)
4.30 **Films: On the Wall**. William G. Stewart
hosts the fast moving quiz show
5.00 **The Late Late Show**. The topical
and lively show from Dublin hosted by
Gay Byrne
6.00 **Roseanne**. American sitcom which
starling Roseanne Barr as the rotund,
wrecking mother and housewife
who, with her bawdy husband Dan (John
Goodman), jokes his way through the
ups and downs of life (r)

6.30 **Tonight with Jonathan Ross**. The
starling of Channel 4 is being used to
snatch viewers from the BBC as he
hosts the first of a new three-times-a-
week chat show, cheekily scheduled
immediately before *Wogan* and looking
to cash in on Ross's stints as stand-
in for the Irish chatter. This evening's
guests are Sinead O'Connor and
Caron Wheeler
7.00 **Channel 4 News**
7.50 **Comment** followed by weather
8.00 **Brookside**. (Teletext) 8.15
8.30 **My Two Dads**. Poor American
sitcom that follows the adventures of a
prepubescent girl and her two
guardians - either of whom could be her
real father
9.00 **The Wall: Writing on the Wall**.
● CHOICE: A five-part series on the
collapse of communism in eastern
Europe opens with an engrossing
reconstruction of the last days of the
German Democratic Republic.
Presented by Jens Reich, leader of the
New Forum civil rights group, it
shows how even as Gorbachev was

embracing the east German leader,
Erich Honecker, during the GDR's 40th
anniversary celebrations, the Soviet
Union was plotting Honecker's downfall.
But what Gorbachev hoped would
be a gradual process of reform turned
into revolution as east German
citizens got the whiff of freedom and
took to the streets. The story is told
with the help of key figures in the drama,
including the stop-gap leader Egon
Krenz, and some of the conspirators
who unwittingly helped to prepare
the way not only for the demolition of the
Berlin Wall but a reunited Germany.
(Teletext)
10.00 **Film: The King of Comedy** (1983).
Robert De Niro as a aspiring stand-up
comedian who hatches a mad
kidnap scheme in an attempt to appear
on a chat show hosted by his idol,
Jerry Lewis. One of several
collaborations between De Niro and
the director, Martin Scorsese (the latest
is the somber gangster film, *Good
Fellas*). It is a sharply funny look at the
workings of television. De Niro gives
his usual bravura performance and
Lewis is outstanding in what is
virtually a straight role. Catherine
Scorsese, mother of the director,
plays De Niro's mother. 12.00
Psychiatrists after Freud.
Psychoanalysis One. The second in a
trilogy of programmes on the French
psychoanalyst and philosopher Jacques
Lacan focuses on the first part of an
interview he gave on French television in
which he discussed his "return to
Freud" and how the practice of
psychoanalysis has relevance for all
human subjects. (English subtitles)
12.55am **Fortunata e Jacinta**. Episode
nine of the Spanish drama (r). Ends at
1.56

TV VARIATIONS
ANGLIA
As London except: 1.30pm-1.50 **Gardens
for All** 2.20-3.15 **Midweek** 3.10-4.40 **Europe
and the World** 4.40-5.00 **News** 5.00-5.15
7.00 **Anglia News** 7.15-7.30 **The Evening News**
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Up to 100,000 construction jobs 'at risk'

By ROSS TIEMAN, INDUSTRIAL CORRESPONDENT

ROUGHLY 100,000 jobs could be lost from the building industry this year and next as recession bites, the Building Employers Confederation gives warning today.

Construction output and orders are falling at their fastest rates for almost a decade, the confederation says in a report accompanying its latest state of trade enquiry.

The confederation believes employment is already falling fast, predicting 50,000 jobs will be lost this year, with another 50,000 at risk in 1991. Last year there were believed to be 1.1 million people working in construction.

David Woods, confederation chairman, says: "We believe we are starting to experience a full-blown recession." One in every two of the 600 member firms surveyed expected to make job cuts. On average, current contracts have less than 12 months to run, and the flow of new orders has dropped sharply.

Mr Woods said the one-point cut in base rates last month, to 14 per cent, had done nothing to improve the position and called for emergency measures from the government to stem the haemorrhage of jobs.

"We believe high interest rates are the major cause of the downturn," he said. Mr Woods called for another two-point reduction in interest rates "by the early part of next year".

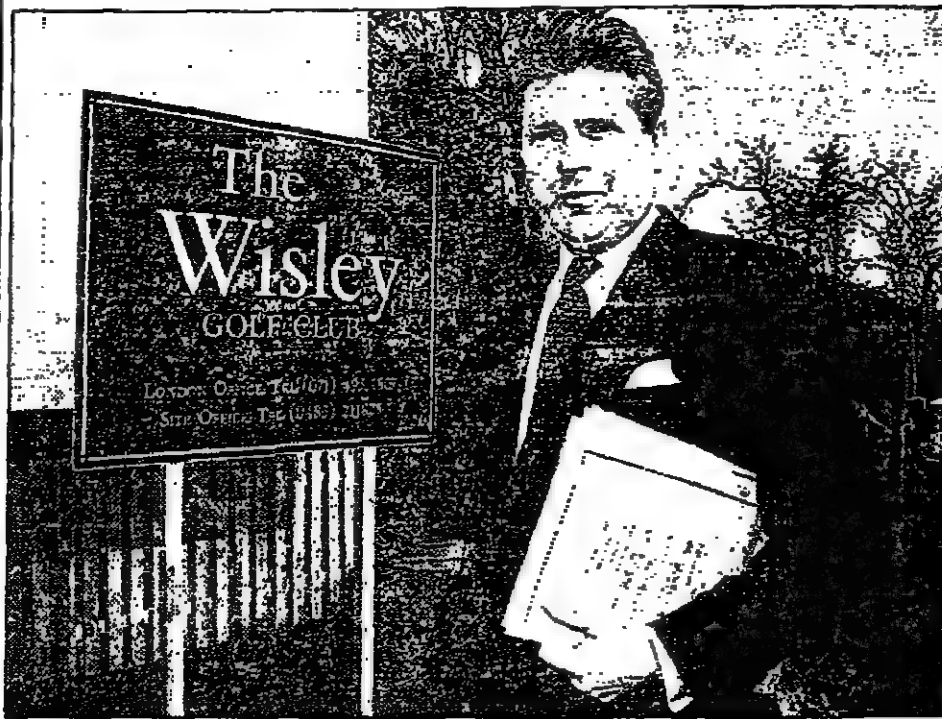
The confederation wants the government to abolish stamp duty on house purchase, and seeks an increase in the £30,000 cut-off point for tax relief on household mortgage interest. It wants the government to make more contracts on infrastructure projects.

There is strong downward pressure on wages, especially for the self-employed and among contractors, it says, and profit margins on contracts are "wafer-thin".

"We believe the government will get good value for money by using our industry at this time," said Mr Woods, who is also chairman of Fearnley, a private construction group near Manchester.

The BEC survey found that for the fourth quarter in succession more firms expected to cut output than to increase production. "The private sector is simply not placing orders," Mr Woods said.

Third round at Wisley



Almost halfway round the membership course: an optimistic Philip Gay

ARLINGTON Securities, the British Aerospace property subsidiary, and Mannai Properties hope to be £5 million better off in ten days, when applications close for the third tranche of memberships at Wisley golf club in Surrey (Matthew Boud writes).

As with the previous tranches, James Capel, the broker, is handling the issue, which involves the sale of 130 memberships of the 27-hole club for £37,330 each.

The first round at the course is not due to be played until next August, but the price of

Wisley memberships is already showing impressive growth. The first issue in January cost £26,000. In May, the second tranche cost £31,300. A fourth issue is not expected until next spring, when the price will have risen again.

Philip Gay, managing director of Marlin Estates, the specially created joint venture between Arlington and Mannai, is optimistic about the prospects for the third issue of memberships.

"Although the economic climate is against us, we are

encouraged and confident. At the beginning of this tranche we had more prospective clients than we had for either of the previous ones," he said.

Both earlier issues were oversubscribed.

By the time the third issue is fully taken up, Wisley will have 355 members out of a maximum of 750.

Mr Gay is delighted at how the newly seeded course is becoming established. "The greens seeded in August are already spectacular." About 90 per cent of the course is now seeded.

Power sale advisers deny price rise claim

By MARTIN WALLER

GOVERNMENT advisers have denied claims that the regulatory arrangements for the privatised electricity industry will automatically lead to price rises next spring that exceed the inflation rate.

The pathfinder prospectus for the 12 regional distributors in England and Wales contains a figure of £221 million in potential "lost profits", the amount by which the companies will miss certain effective earnings targets from their supply and distribution operations this year.

They can claw back such "under-recovery" over the next four years. The money was "lost" for various reasons, chiefly because the inflation rate has outstripped the 6 per cent forecast made for the current financial year in May.

But sources close to the float said it was wrong to assume all the sums involved would be recovered direct from the electricity consumer in higher tariffs next year. The companies are unlikely to attempt to claw back all the money in the first year and are more likely to use under-recovery as a way of smoothing out their profit flows over the next few years. More importantly, the money can more easily come from savings in generation costs which will have to be passed on to the distributors.

GILT-EDGED

Inflation outlook offers reason to be cheerful

The fear of recession and the associated prospect of sharp base rate cuts should, on past form, provide a recipe for a bull run in gilts. But will it work this time?

The evidence of recession has reached the point of incontestability. Nevertheless, the ERM pessimists suggest British rates may not be able to fall much because they are now tied to rates in Frankfurt and, especially after last week's Lombard rate increase, these provide no room for comfort.

Yet this argument flies in the face of experience within the ERM. Over the past two years the differential between German interest rates and those of other ERM members has fallen considerably.

Italy, in particular, has been conspicuously successful in narrowing her interest differential with Germany. The reasons seem clear: the gradual convergence of inflation rates and growing confidence in the ERM.

With British inflation set to fall to 5 per cent by the end of next year, and even lower if the recession bites deep, we see no reason why the British interest differential should not also fall sharply. We forecast base rates of 11 per cent or even less if there is a really deep recession and inflation falls further than we have forecast.

So high base rates are not, in our view, the problem. But there are others, not least the yield curve. Unlike in previous bear phases, over the past two years gilt yields have not risen to anywhere near the level of short interest rates. No doubt this is largely because of the public sector surplus, combined with the policy of full funding.

In late 1981, however, when base rates were 16 per cent, long gilt yields for a time stood well above this, thereby setting up the conditions for the great bull market of 1982. Now gilt yields at 11½ per cent in the mediums, less in the longs, stand well below base rates at 14 per cent. Short rates have to fall a good deal further before it becomes clear that gilts are a good buy.

Ultimately, of course, both base rates and gilt yields hinge on inflation. This will also fall sharply next year. But that idea is already in the market.

The key issues are what will happen to the underlying

rate of inflation next year, and the prospects for inflation thereafter.

We are bullish on both counts. We see the core inflation rate falling from a peak of nearly 7 to 5½ per cent by the end of next year. But perhaps more importantly we believe Britain will return to an inflation rate close to the OECD average or even below it. This was achieved in the mid-Eighties. It was only the excesses of the Lawson boom and the high interest rates needed to suppress it that caused a relatively high inflation rate in the past two years.

Yet it would be unwise to base short-term market predictions on these views. It will be some time before the market will be in a position to form a view, let alone be sure about whether we are right on base rates and inflation. For the time being the evidence will simply be left to accumulate.

Indeed, there are other concerns, most importantly funding. The public finances are deteriorating sharply. It is likely that the authorities will need to issue £5 billion of gilts this financial year to comply with the full funding formula. Other conditions, of course, may dictate that they do not comply with it in the short term, but that would leave all the more gilts to be sold next year.

Our figures suggest that the gilt funding requirement for 1991-2 will be £10 billion, even before any carry-over from this year. Investment institutions' gilt holdings have sunk so low that in the fullness of time this much stock may be swallowed up by them with ease. Indeed, if we are right about the economic outlook it may be not with ease, but with alacrity.

The upshot is that, not least because of political uncertainties in the wake of Sir Geoffrey Howe's resignation and the threat of war in the Gulf, caution is still the order of the day. Nevertheless, by the end of this year, as fund managers look to their allocations for the coming year, we suspect they may be deciding to push more money into government stock. Next year could well turn out to be the year of the gilt.

ROGER BOOTLE
Greenwell Monagu
Gilt-Edged

CAPITAL MARKETS

Proof that credit heyday is over

IF EVER proof was needed that the loan syndication market had changed out of all recognition from the good old days of the 1980s, it was provided last week.

Although the rather unseemly dispute between National Power and PowerGen over who bounced whom clouded the issue, bankers are agreed on one point. Pricing on loans has not moved this sharply so quickly for decades.

Two months ago, the East Midlands electricity company borrowed at a 15-basis point margin. Last week, two companies of a similar if not identical credit quality were having to work hard to settle deals at 37.5 basis points. Both deals were underwritten, eventually achieving reasonably comfortable oversubscriptions.

But the message to corporate treasurers is clear. If funding is needed now, they need to be flexible and forget the margins common a year ago. If the money is not that urgent, they should wait. The markets are still too unpredictable and volatile for even the highest quality, blue chip-rated name to feel comfortable about making an approach, particularly if the deal is a large one.

A quick glance at the list of underwriters of the two generators' loans indicates the most important single reason why this is so. Of 37 underwriting banks, only seven are Japanese. If these syndications were taking place 12 months ago, the number would have been close to 20.

Assuming no further immediate shocks to the system after the massive loss of capacity resulting from the Japanese withdrawal, it is just

possible that pricing will settle down for a while.

The supply of new credit has contracted, but so has demand. So few companies can afford to have the nerve to launch ambitious expansion plans, particularly through acquisition, that new loans remain scarce.

Sooner or later that will change. When it does, the cost of capital is almost certain to rise further. The days when a financing for a highly leveraged, ego-driven, mega-deal could be hawked round the market with every confidence of success have surely now entered 1980s mythology, not to return for many years.

There is another factor. The dozens of finely priced five-year multi-option facilities arranged for corporate borrowers in 1987 and 1988 will need to be refinanced over the next couple of years.

Although these will not involve increased net demand for capital, they will allow bankers to crystallise the very different market conditions of the 1990s in the form of substantially higher margins and fees, if they are willing to lend at all. However much they think otherwise, in the long run this is not all bad news for corporate treasurers.

Higher margins mean more profits, improved capital ratios and a greater capacity to lend. But for now, only the brave and desperate will want to tackle the markets. Rarely, if ever, has the pricing of deals been so difficult.

As one bewildered banker put it last week: "Whatever you do today, tomorrow you'll wish you hadn't."

JONATHAN PRYNN

Burmah's Romania deal

By OUR CITY STAFF

BURMAH Castrol, which is bidding £237 million for Fosco, has agreed a deal with Romania to supply 10 million litres a year of Castrol lubricants to state railways. The total sales value of the deal is £50 million.

Burmah will also upgrade the key servicing depots in the network, and overhaul the

lubricating production facilities at the main state oil refinery outside Bucharest, later switching the supply of Castrol oil to this source.

Analysts believe Burmah may eventually offer a share swap alternative as part of an increased offer for Fosco. Fosco's shares are 5p above Burmah's 275p cash offer.

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BECAUSE SO MUCH IS HAPPENING SO FAST.

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Nothing helps to put European events into perspective like a trip to America. It is a trip that I would particularly recommend to Mrs Thatcher and Sir Geoffrey Howe. What they would learn is that the arguments over ERM and Emu raise more important practical issues than anti-European gut feeling or sentimental longings for monetary sovereignty and untrammelled parliamentary power.

Three subjects dominate conversation among policymakers and economists in Washington. First, the American economy is entering a serious recession. Second, if this recession lasts more than a few months it will lead to a collapse of much of the American financial system. Third, the country's politicians and central bankers have no intention of allowing such a disaster – and therein lies the rub for Britain, for Washington's best hope of avoiding economic calamity will be to shift the burden of American recession onto the rest of the world.

American employment, industrial output and leading

indicators are all in steady decline. Housing starts have fallen by one-third in eight months, despite a decline in interest rates. All over America companies are battenning down the hatches.

Among "ordinary" people, the transformation from optimism to gloom is on a scale not seen since the early Seventies. Recession is a fact. People who have lost their jobs are giving up hope of finding new ones.

Such uncharacteristic pessimism illustrates the self-justifying cycle of fear which lies at the heart of every recession. But what makes the present cycle especially serious is that the fear is an accurate reflection of the fragility of the financial system. Everyone knows about the misfortunes of the American banks, property developers and leveraged financiers, but the intensity of gloom about the financial sector is none the less surprising. Senior economists in

Pushing on a string

ECONOMIC VIEW

ANATOLE KALETSKY

public institutions predict quite casually that several of the biggest American banks will have to be taken over by the federal government. They then go on to express their real source of alarm, the idea that financial contagion might spread to insurance companies and pension funds which are unprotected by government guarantees.

Inevitably, the conversation then turns to Keynes's famous comment about the difficulty of reviving an economy once confidence has collapsed. When banks are failing and businesses are terrified of borrowing, cutting interest rates is no more effective than pushing on a string, he said.

This "pushing on a string" thesis is gaining increasing

prominence among the extreme bears on Wall Street. However, it misses one critical difference between today's integrated world economy and the protected national systems described by Keynes. While cuts in interest rates may fail to revive American domestic borrowing, they can still have a hugely stimulative effect on the economy by pushing down the value of the dollar. This would sustain American manufacturing industry by boosting exports and shutting out imports. This is why further devaluation of the dollar is now seen by many officials in Washington as the best hope for preserving American creditworthiness and jobs.

This brings us back to Britain. The British Treasury's policy of

talking up the pound so as to put it into the ERM at a deliberately overvalued exchange rate will make British industry the biggest single victim of America's policy of dollar devaluation. Unlike their Japanese and German rivals, which are enjoying booming conditions at home, British companies are badly in need of the kind of boost from world markets which should sustain American exporters in the months ahead. Instead, they are going to find themselves squeezed even further out of their most important single market, which remains the United States.

The Treasury may argue that the pound is not overvalued against European currencies at DM2.95. But against the dollar it is now 25 per cent higher than in 1976. Since then unit labour costs in Britain have risen 3 per cent faster each year than in America. As a result, British industry's competitiveness in the American market is now 40 per cent lower

than in 1976. Now consider what happens next.

A still higher mark and a lower dollar suit Germany and America. Germany has a huge trade surplus and wants to shift the structure of its economy towards domestic consumption, while Washington wants to perform the opposite manoeuvre. For Britain this pincer movement could spell disaster.

Just as in the United States, the British economy is falling into recession and needs a stimulus from exports, but this is a possibility that ERM entry has deliberately foreclosed.

In the longer term, Britain also needs a structural transformation from borrowing, services and consumption to saving, manufacturing and industrial investment similar to the one beginning in America. Instead, by tying itself to the mark at a high exchange rate, Britain has chosen to move its economy in the opposite direction.

It is the operation of the ERM today and tomorrow, not the vague plans about Emu in the future, that politicians in Britain should now be arguing about.

NOTHING goes easily for Eurotunnel, it seems. Aside from the huge inflation in construction costs which has knocked its original budget away and the damaging series of rows with the builders, Eurotunnel is launching a rights issue against the real possibility of war in the Middle East and strong competition from the electricity privatisation.

It says much for the company and its advisers that they have devised an issue for all seasons which on balance deserves to succeed. But investors should be under no illusion. Taking up rights or buying into the issue via the nil-paid shares requires not one but two acts of faith.

The first, less difficult belief, must be that nothing goes wrong in the final construction and commissioning phases of the project. Building costs look much less of a threat than they did a couple of years back. Interest rates are still much higher than forecast originally but cost inflation in the building industry is now limping along behind the retail price index. Eurotunnel has in any event built some leeway into its final fund raising which ought to take care of any problems.

The more problematic belief is that traffic and operating revenues will meet the company's projections. The assumptions are tested on eight different bases in the rights issue prospectus. For those subscribing to new shares, the base case produces a gross dividend yield over the life of the project of 15.6 per cent compared with 16.9 per cent under the most favourable assumptions and 14.1 per cent in the worst. The same exercise suggests that Eurotunnel shares, 435p on Friday, should be worth £16 on a discounted dividend basis by mid-1999 when the first payments to shareholders are due.

Eurotunnel has always insisted that the traffic and revenue forecasts are conservative and Alastair Morton, the chief executive, ceaselessly points out that they include nothing for the so-called M25 effect, traffic generated simply because a new, more convenient route has come into existence. For those believers

Eurotunnel calls for a double act of faith

TEMPUS



Morton: he insists traffic forecasts are conservative

who accept the much reduced project risk or are equally tempted by the new travel perks then the issue has its attractions in the longer term. The strategy of a deep discount offer at 285p per share on three for five basis was to attract the small shareholder.

Current holders of Eurotunnel who bought shares at 350p in 1987 have not fared badly despite the stormy background and the collapse in the shares from the £11 reached in 1988. The shares plus the attached warrants are now worth 466p, showing a 33 per

cent gain. Eurotunnel has pitched the terms of its latest equity offer to make them attractive to those who wish to take profits by selling their rights and to those buying in for the first time through the nil-paid stock.

With Eurotunnel shares at 435p, the likely ex-rights price is 379p giving a value to the new nil-paid shares of 94p which could be realised without sacrificing the original travel perks. Those who wish to take up their rights can expect substantial long-term capital gain between now and

the 1999 first dividend date.

On the admittedly theoretical basis of the prospectus forecasts, the gain on each new share taken up equates to a compound growth rate of about 20 per cent annually. By the same calculations, those buying the nil paid for the travel concessions can, in theory at least, expect compound growth averaging 15 per cent a year. A full-blown Middle East conflict could upset stock markets by the final payment date of December 3. But, other things being equal, Eurotunnel and its shareholders should find the issue attractive. Others might prefer to wait for the price details of the electricity flotation.

Mimorco

THERE are three important "p's" in gold mining language when considering a mine's reserves – proven, probable and possible.

One consolation in the latest bout of gold price weakness is that it knocks the weak out of the ring.

Exploration budgets are invariably re-examined, if not scaled down. Gold reserves that were profitable to mine at one price drop back into the dubious class.

Investment attention in today's uncertain gold markets is thus being given to those mines whose life looks more secure than the next one.

Mimorco's 1990 annual report makes the point. It took over North American Freeport Gold (renamed Independence Mining) in March, paying the superficially high price of \$705 million, or \$17 a share. That equated to an historic multiple of 55 times and was at a 20 per cent premium to the market.

Time has helped put that price into perspective. As Williams de Broé, the broker, notes, the proven and probable reserves of Independence's Jerritt Canyon and Big Springs mines in Nevada have hardly changed at 2.35 million ounces. However, their reserves of gold which fall into the probable class have jumped from 2.92 million ounces to 4.09 million ounces.

The conclusion must be that Mimorco, trading at 805p, should not be forgotten when next the bullion price runs.

Institutions ready for Spurs deal

A CONSORTIUM of institutions headed by Michael Goddard, chairman of Balcic, the investment company, is ready to unveil a deal for Tottenham Hotspur as soon as the troubled football club publishes its circular to shareholders. The deal has been put together by Paribas, the French bank.

A document outlining events leading to the shares' suspension at 91p a fortnight ago and setting out Spurs' financial position is expected this week. The consortium and the Spurs board were silent last night on the new deal.

A link with the consortium would not only strengthen the club's debt-ridden balance sheet – it is £13 million in the red – but would also present directors with an alternative to Robert Maxwell's £13 million cash injection.

Spurs is under pressure from the International Stock Exchange to explain details of an agreement between Mr Maxwell and Irving Scholar, chairman of the football club. Mr Maxwell lent £1.1 million to a private company controlled by Mr Scholar, the club's biggest single shareholder with 26 per cent, who lent the money to the club. Mr Scholar resigned from the board of Tottenham Hotspur last week.

GILLIAN BOWDITCH

Sugar may seek spice in Far East if new battle is lost

EC NOTEBOOK

A FRESH battle over the protection of computer software rights is likely after a warning from Alan Sugar, chairman of Amstrad, that revised rules from Brussels will ruin his operations in Scotland, forcing him to shift his computer manufacturing to the Far East.

Mr Sugar told Peter Lilley, the trade secretary, last week that computer firms must not be forbidden from analysing each other's computer programs in order to devise their own compatible software – a process known as "reverse engineering". If they were, Europe's industry would be wiped out by IBM and Digital Equipment Corp, its bigger American rivals.

Brussels is caught in the cross-fire. After partially legalising "reverse engineering" in the wake of criticism from American lobbyists, it is now under pressure from Britain to prohibit software analysis for developing competing products. Mr Sugar is annoyed at the British amendment, which lobbyists for other European firms such as Bull, Olivetti and Fujitsu España agree could "wipe out in one stroke the European compatible personal computer business".

INSURANCE companies from 11 countries have

launched a campaign to recover an estimated 100,000 vehicles burgled and smuggled abroad every year.

Handicapped by their inability to pursue their enquiries across borders, members of the European Committee of Insurers (CEI) have signed a pact to track down, and repatriate, missing vehicles.

They have decided they will sell off the ones that cost too much to send home.

FREE trade is "in" and protectionism is "out" for European industry, Maria Bangemann, the European Community's industrial affairs commissioner, has declared in an upbeat assessment of his new industrial strategy for the community.

The policy paper is as much a message to the outside world as to Europe's own over-protected companies. The community is committed to the removal of state subsidies to ailing companies, but it will carry out the dismantling in its own good time, the paper says, implicitly threatening an abeyance if other countries try to bounce Europe into faster action.

Heir Bangemann has timed the paper to bolster his own struggle against the community's more protectionist governments and those national car makers that are stalling over the removal of barriers to Japanese car imports, to the growing impatience of Tokyo. But critics say the paper could send the wrong message to the Japanese, reassuring them that they do not need to open their market to European products in return.

A JOINT convention has been signed by Czechoslovakia, Germany and the EC to clean the river Elbe, marking the first East-West effort to combat pollution since the collapse of communism revealed the extent of environmental damage in the Eastern bloc.

Following the border between old East and West Germany, the Elbe has become the main outflow for Central Europe's industrial pollution, running from Prague, through Dresden and into the North Sea at Hamburg.

PETER GUILFORD
Brussels

THE TIMES CITY DIARY

Lisa with a BZW

GERALD Ronson, the disgraced financier jailed for a year and fined £5 million for his role in the Guinness affair, has, it seems, been putting his legendary contacts in the Square Mile to good use. His eldest daughter, Lisa, aged 22, has joined BZW Securities as a trainee, a matter of weeks after graduating from Manchester University's Institute of Science and Technology with a degree in management sciences. The move is not unexpected as Sir John Quinlan, chairman of Barclays Bank and a business associate of her father's for 16 years, served as a character witness during the Guinness trial. Adding his name to a list of eminent businessmen, which included Sir David Plastow, chairman and chief executive of Vickers, Quinlan hailed Ronson, aged 51, as perhaps the most successful businessman of his generation. Further support for Ronson came from Sir Martin Jacob, chairman of BZW, who was a regular at Ronson's annual lunch, held at the Savoy for senior City figures and industrialists. Lisa, said to be very close to her father, began a three-month induction course with the firm in October.

Hugh's off

HUGH Hughes, managing director of Swiss Bank Corporation until May this year, when he was asked to move to

a head office job in Zurich, has resigned from the firm to join Paribas in London. "It was a very good job and I still have lots of friends in Switzerland but, for personal reasons, I decided that I wanted to stay in the UK," says Hughes, aged 38. Hughes, who previously ran the European division of Wedd Dürschner, joined Savory Millett – now part of SBCI – in 1985, just as Wedd was being merged with Barclays and de Zoete & Bevan to create BZW. He hopes to start at Paribas on December 1 and will be responsible for all equity and equity derivatives trading. "It is a new position, combining those two roles for the first time, and a very senior position," says Chris Cartwright, head of equities at Paribas. Hughes says it was its pan-European approach that attracted him to Paribas. "I had two other very good offers, one from a Japanese firm and the other from an

American firm, but I turned them down in favour of Paribas," he says. He reveals, however, that his French wife Brigitte, despite her nationality, wanted him to accept the American job – because the money was better.

A SIGN of the times? The latest victim of the slump in dealing volumes is Roberts Weaver Design, a West-London consultancy that made its name supplying dealing systems to many top firms in the Square Mile. The company, which was placed in administrative receivership a week ago, counted Bank of Tokyo and Swiss Bank among its clients. Negotiations to sell the name are currently in hand.

EG phone home

FAST-moving executives who feel lost without a mobile telephone should spare a thought for their less fortunate associates in what was once East Germany. Poor communication has become a massive headache for the huge Truchandanstalt, which has been given the unenviable task of putting thousands of near-bankrupt companies back on their feet. Truchand, trustee to 8,000 crumbling companies, is urgently trying to rationalise or liquidate about three-quarters of them and is apparently finding its work hampered by East Germany's decrepit telephone system. From its makeshift headquarters in the Alexanderplatz, which it now shares with Deutsche Bank,

frustrated advisers even have difficulty calling West Berlin, just minutes away by car. And cellular phones are of little use, because the explosion of interest in Berlin since the wall came down has jammed the network. Such congestion, according to some analysts, could explain why British companies have shown little interest in the firms Truchand has on its books. For, try as they might, they simply cannot get through.

Mother love

WHO said there is no room for sentiment in business? Mike Norris, chief executive of Reece, the industrial and consumer products group, has revealed his main reason for seeking a listing on the stock market, apart from raising money, was to impress his mother. "She loves reading about me and my company," says Norris, aged 38, who this year reversed his private company into Caudon, the fully-quoted engineer. Until then, Reece, a distributor of cycle components and plastic door panels, had expanded by using privately-raised development capital. The company thrived, but, being outside the quoted sector, received little publicity. Norris admits he sends copies of all his newspaper cuttings to his mum, even when they are not so flattering – such as when the company revealed pre-tax losses of £138,000 for the six months to the end of March.

CAROL LEONARD

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The computer industry faces growing demand for compatible machines that can talk to each other, Matthew May writes

Customers hunt the missing link

The computer industry is suffering from falling profits, fierce competition, and the prospect of a general economic recession. To add to its problems, customers are increasingly demanding compatible pieces of software and hardware that can be easily expanded, connected to each other, and linked to the outside world.

As the use of computers and networks becomes more sophisticated, the demand to mix and match different brands and sizes of computer and their software is becoming ever stronger.

The answer is what are described as open systems, in which machine talks to machine and software can be moved across different systems as easily as an audio cassette will play on any tape recorder.

Progress towards open systems has been slow. Manufacturers prefer the higher profit margins that come from locking a customer into a limited range of suppliers. Open systems mean more competition and lower prices.

"I will tell you frankly that the ratio between the cost of manufacture of traditional Olivetti equipment to the sale price used to be one to four," Vittorio Cassoni, the chief executive of Olivetti, said in a speech last month.

"With a modern workstation this has reduced to one to two. All this has been brought about by the advent of standards-based open systems, which have introduced very high levels of competition into the market for all the component parts of open products."

The huge operational advantages, as well as the keener prices, have prompted governments and large corporations to start insisting on open systems.

In the United States, for example, a group of 45 companies including Kodak, Du Pont, Exxon and General Motors has formed the User Alliance for Open Systems, which says it is "declaring global war against proprietary systems that hold data hostage".

Closer to home, the European Commission now insists that any public sector contract of more than 100,000 euros (£70,000) must specify open systems. The commission is convinced that open systems will further the large-scale integration of computers that will be required with the single European market in 1993.

There is also a political side to the debate. The dominant proprietary systems are American, from companies such as IBM, Digital Equipment and Unisys. Several



large European computer companies have a lot to gain from their removal.

Despite its support, the commission has angered many companies in favour of open systems with proposals aimed at reducing software piracy. The companies argue that the proposals imply that programs cannot be analysed or reverse-engineered, thereby reducing their ability to produce programs that are compatible with the original — a discouragement in moving towards open systems.

IBM still dominates the computer

industry. The American giant's sales are five times as large as those of the next five companies put together, though five years ago revenue was greater than that of the next 12 companies.

IBM has begun to release equipment that meets open system standards, but has far to go. Even within IBM, many of its different types of computer are incompatible with each other — a problem it has only recently started to sort out.

For the second largest computer company in the world, Digital Equipment, that has never been a

problem. Internal compatibility was one of its strengths throughout the Eighties.

Two weeks ago, the company announced a redesign of its proprietary operating system so that it will accept programs compatible with one of the planks of open systems — a portable operating system known as Unix. It is a big change. Two years ago, Ken Olsen, the company founder and president, described Unix as "about as exciting as a Russian truck".

The idea of Unix is that once installed, on whatever brand of computer, it will present a common face to software, allowing one version of a program to work on any computer running Unix. But, ridiculously, there are several different and incompatible versions of Unix, reducing the effectiveness of the concept. The industry has formed two camps: Unix International, headed by AT&T, and the Open Software Foundation, dominated by IBM.

Despite the confusion, customer demand is growing. "There are now many examples of companies replacing IBM mainframes with one or several Unix-based minicomputers," says Anne Peter, a director of the Instruction Set, the open systems division of Hoskyns. She says there are clear signs that power

is moving from the manufacturers to the customers.

"Unix boxes are inherently cheaper by up to a half, and, though the hidden cost of integrating such systems reduces the savings, they are still around 30 per cent on average," Ms Peter says.

The number of companies using open systems, however, is still small. In Britain, the trade and industry department runs a campaign to promote the advantages of open systems, but a department survey of heavy computer users earlier this year discovered that only 8 per cent have introduced open systems, with a further 5 per cent investigating the possibility. To try to increase awareness, it holds briefings, helps to fund selected projects and runs an information line (071-215 2521).

"Though at board level the concept of open systems is often accepted, managers handling the day-to-day running are usually so busy running on the spot, or fire-fighting, they don't have the time or resources to give it the necessary attention," Ms Peter says. "Company boards must put up the resources if they want open systems".

Growth is now expected to be fast, with research firms predicting that the sale of open systems should begin to match proprietary ones by 1993. Many companies are making a healthy living from specialising in open systems. From Wednesday, more than 80 speakers and 150 exhibitors will gather at London's Olympia 2 for a three-day conference and exhibition on open systems.

A part from making computers able to run the same programs, the other big plank of open systems is communications — the ability of computers to connect to each other and swap information easily.

An open communications format, Open Systems Interconnection (OSI), which has been developed by the International Standards Organisation, outlines a complex seven-layer model that makes systems increasingly "open" the more layers it conforms to.

The big manufacturers have yet to produce products that get past the first few layers, but the promise of computers that can communicate with each other as easily as telephones means that customers are unlikely to give up the quest.

An exhibition and conference on open systems takes place at Olympia 2, London, November 7-9, (091-416 4570).

Suppliers forced to open up systems

GOVERNMENTS are getting tough with computer suppliers. They will not buy systems unless they are open, and are trying to persuade businesses to adopt the same policy, to put more pressure on manufacturers.

European governments and other public bodies should adopt suitable open systems standards wherever possible as a result of a 1987 directive from the European Commission, while the United States government has also become stricter in recent years.

Such guidelines have been hard to enforce, largely because suitable products were not available. Government demands have kick-started a multi-million pound market for communications products, using the Open Systems Interconnection (OSI) standard, which can link different suppliers' computers.

No company can afford to ignore this market, and suppliers such as DEC and Hewlett-Packard are abandoning their proprietary communications products, while IBM has allowed OSI alongside its own systems.

Britain's Central Computer and Telecommunications Agency, a Treasury office that advises the public sector on the purchase of information technology, helped make OSI standards comprehensible in its Gossip (Government OSI Profile) handbooks. These side civil servants to select the right options to make sure their networks link up.

Other countries have developed their own versions, based on the UK initiative, and a pan-European version is being prepared. Britain and America are trying to make their versions match.

The other big problem with open systems — ensuring a standard that allows computer programs to run on any system — has been more difficult to solve. IBM-compatible personal computers have been able to do it for years, but large computers have had to wait.

The portable operating system, Unix, offered a solution, though with a number of versions available. But then

gave governments a problem, because to support one supplier's version.

To win government approval, a Unix standard had to come from an independent body. The result, called Posix, developed by the United States Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers, is now specified by a number of governments with some large contracts in the United States already including programs written to the standard.

However, to provide a universally agreed standard the functions of Posix are limited. Most systems need more than Posix can provide on its own.

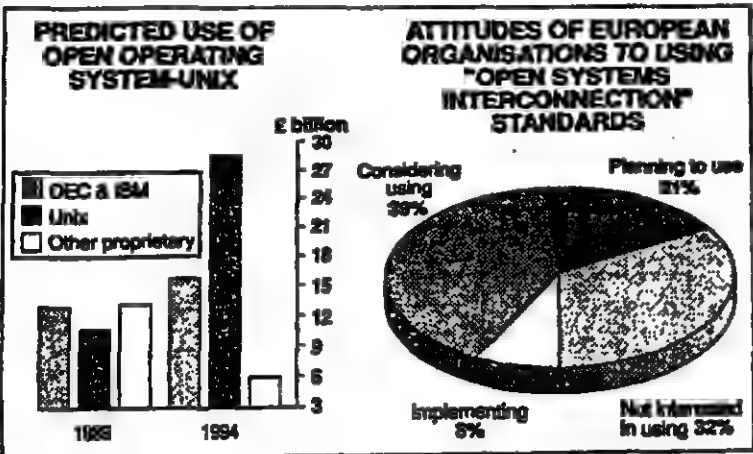
To deal with this, the industry created a group of its own, X/Open, to reach agreement on emerging areas. It is sponsored by the big hardware suppliers, and most of the significant computer companies are members.

X/Open's guidelines describe usable standards for the kind of operations that are needed in a real open system. It has been adopted by suppliers throughout the industry, and has won support from governments in Germany, Italy, Spain and Britain. The European Commission uses it as a guideline for buying the internal systems used in DG13, its data processing division.

Despite this, governments are keeping X/Open at arm's length. It is, after all, largely funded by and made up of suppliers, and its guidelines are not an international standard. Governments cannot commit themselves completely, and are working on their own specifications for open systems.

In Britain, the trade and industry department is bringing the open systems message to British industry through a £12 million publicity campaign. But the programme has been criticised for its narrow scope. The department is promoting OSI only, with scarcely a mention of Posix, let alone Unix. Working within tight limitations, the department does not want to promote any one company's products.

PETER JUDGE



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Argentina feel might of a resurgent power at Twickenham while the All Blacks show they are far from a spent force in Nantes

Disciplined England show class

Stealth and speed are the undoing of French giants

By DAVID HANDS

RUGBY CORRESPONDENT

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fidence of our young players, they're not made to play international rugby. They must learn from this experience. Even in such a comprehensive defeat, the Pumas could point to the lineout work, particularly of German Llanes, which earned them equal shares of that phase against one of the world's most experienced second-row pairings.

England, for their part, will look closely at their midfield, which failed to operate as they would have wished. It is a long time since Carling has been stopped by so many stern tackles, mainly from Allen, yet it remains to his side's credit that they identified a malfunction and switched the focus to the back row and scrum half. They proved quite capable of scoring from short and long range while limiting the Pumas' opportunities to two missed penalties and a hurried, dropped goal by Porta, and a smartly taken targe penalty from which Jorge nearly scored.

I fancy that, at 15-0 with over half the match to go, Porta might have been better advised to put points on the board by kicking at goal from an easy position. It is only the second time in 17 years of international rugby that he has failed to score, the other occasion being an appearance for South America against the Springboks in 1980.

England's domination of the ruck ball gave Hill a luxurious afternoon. Not only did he score the first try himself but he piled his backs with such good ball that Underwood, back on the more familiar left wing, found himself with the acres of space the home championship will surely not permit him. Of his three tries (he now totals 25 for a round century of points), the first was the best, a sweeping run which took him past three defenders to dot the ball down just before Scollin, a tenacious defender, tackled him into the corner flag.

England's half-time lead was 18-0, Hodgkinson adding two penalties to the initial tries then kicking a third immediately after the interval. In some ways, Argentina had the best of the second quarter,



On the break: Hill, the England flanker, surges clear of the Argentine defence on his way to the try line

dominating possession but unable to break the grip of the England back row. England's scrum twice tried a snap shove on the Argentine scrum feed, in the hope of destroying a point of strength, but the fine timing required was absent and twice Probyn was penalised for lowering.

In fact, it was Probyn's experience which made the afternoon so frustrating for young Mendez. The Pumas loose-head is exceptionally strong but, aged 18, he has not the guile of Probyn and it may be that which contributed to the release of tension involved in his mad swing which laid out Ackford.

Winterbottom's subtle release of the ball gave Underwood his second try and Scollin, coming at speed onto a flat pass from Carling and at a slightly different angle - not a noted characteristic of English back play - gave the Bath centre the first of his two tries. Hill found no opposition when he broke from a slightly

wheeled scrum and Guscott's speed after a long kick-and-catch phase took him clear of the defence.

The final thrust was Underwood's surging up to the posts to complete what Carling and Hodgkinson had begun, though there was only the touch of refinement to the spadework already achieved by the English pack.

SCORERS: England: Tries: Underwood (2), Guscott (2), Hill, Ackford, Scollin (2), Hill, Hall, Conversions: Hodgkinson (7). Penalties: Guscott (2), Hill (1), Underwood (1). Argentina: Tries: Underwood (2), Guscott (2), Hill, Ackford, Scollin (2), Hill, Hall, Conversions: Hodgkinson (7). Penalties: Guscott (2), Hill (1), Underwood (1).

ARGENTINA: A. Scollin (Aurini); B. Scollin (Aurini); C. Scollin (Aurini); D. Scollin (Aurini); E. Scollin (Aurini); F. Scollin (Aurini); G. Scollin (Aurini); H. Scollin (Aurini); I. Scollin (Aurini); J. Scollin (Aurini); K. Scollin (Aurini); L. Scollin (Aurini); M. Scollin (Aurini); N. Scollin (Aurini); O. Scollin (Aurini); P. Scollin (Aurini); Q. Scollin (Aurini); R. Scollin (Aurini); S. Scollin (Aurini); T. Scollin (Aurini); U. Scollin (Aurini); V. Scollin (Aurini); W. Scollin (Aurini); X. Scollin (Aurini); Y. Scollin (Aurini); Z. Scollin (Aurini); AA. Scollin (Aurini); AB. Scollin (Aurini); AC. Scollin (Aurini); AD. Scollin (Aurini); AE. Scollin (Aurini); AF. Scollin (Aurini); AG. Scollin (Aurini); AH. Scollin (Aurini); AI. Scollin (Aurini); AJ. Scollin (Aurini); AK. Scollin (Aurini); AL. Scollin (Aurini); AM. Scollin (Aurini); AN. Scollin (Aurini); AO. Scollin (Aurini); AP. Scollin (Aurini); AQ. Scollin (Aurini); AR. Scollin (Aurini); AS. Scollin (Aurini); AT. 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Mansell ends the season and two years with Ferrari on a high note in Australian grand prix

Time to look ahead to challenge with new team

Adelaide

It's marvelous to end the season and my two years with Ferrari on a high note. I couldn't quite manage the win that would have made it a perfect sign-off, but that wasn't for the want of trying.

I'd never previously finished an Australian grand prix and I hardly need reminding that I had the world championship snatched from my grasp by a blow-out here in 1986. Simply to stay the course and finish second was a relief. But to have a race like that was very satisfying.

The pace over those last few laps, as I chased Nelson Piquet, he drove a fantastic race and deserved his win. I am just sorry there weren't another five or six laps.



Britain's leading Formula One driver and member of the Marlboro drivers' team comments on yesterday's Australian grand prix

These were the closing stages of what had been a long, hard and extremely hot race. I couldn't believe the speed of Piquet's Benetton. I have to compliment him. He didn't just drive a good race, he drove a fantastic race and deserved his win. I am just sorry there weren't another five or six laps.

As it was, I had to have a go at him on the last lap and he knew I would have to. It was make or break. Going down the Brabham straight at upwards of 200mph, we had Stefano Modena ahead of us. The Brabham moved over to let Nelson through and I followed. I braked as late as I dared to go inside Piquet at the right-hand corner. As he turned in, we missed each other by a fraction of an inch, but he got through ahead of me and that was it. There was no more I could do. I am sure everyone will agree that was real racing and hopefully Formula One is the better for it.

For the first part of the race, the pace was pretty hot, too. I was running second behind Ayrton Senna and I could have done with a

windscreen wiper to cope with the oil and water splattering my visor. We traded fastest laps but the acceleration of the Marlboro McLaren Honda was too much and by pushing so hard to keep up I began to have problems with my tyres and brakes. I had a bit of a hiccup at one corner and had to do a spin turn to get back on the track. It was the sort of day and the sort of race where everyone had problems of some sort.

With fresh tyres I was able to charge again. I took Gerhard Berger, then my team-mate Alain Prost. With Senna gone, that left me in second place again, behind Piquet.

Both of us had problems with traffic, and with one back marker in

particular. Let's just say it's a shame when someone so consistently holds up people.

It's also sad, in a way, to be saying goodbye to Ferrari. I don't think anyone would dispute that when I've had the equipment I've delivered the goods. I won my first race for them, in Brazil, had the tremendous thrill of that victory in Hungary, and then another in Portugal this season. I leave them as I arrived, with the satisfaction of having given the team and the public a good result. I leave on good terms and I know I'm welcome at Ferrari any time next season.

Now, though, it's time to look ahead. This is just the launch pad I need for a new challenge, with Williams Renault.

ROWING

Need for enquiry by coaches into what went wrong

FROM RICHARD BURNELL IN TASMANIA

IN A championship that awards medals to those who finish in the first three places, the worst possible result for the competitors is to finish fourth. To be the fourth best anything in the world is, of course, a considerable achievement. But to a young athlete who has dedicated 12 months of unremitting endeavour to achieving a "place", gold, or bronze, or silver, or perhaps the ultimate blow.

In the world rowing championships, just completed on Lake Barrington here, 14 British crews started and eight reached the final for first - sixth places. Two of them achieved third place, four finished fourth, and two fifth.

Without doubt there are disappointed British rowers and women wending their way home. One hopes that British coaches and officials will give serious thought to what went wrong.

The keystone of the British team was the coxless pair of Steven Redgrave and his partner, Matthew Pinsent. They allowed first Jung and Kellner, of East Germany, and then Taga and Voinov, of Romania and the Pincov brothers, of the Soviet Union, to slip away early in the coxless pairs final on Saturday. They fought back strongly but too late.

The coxless four started strongly, fell back in the middle stages of the race, and failed to

get back on terms despite rowing the fastest 500 metres of the course of all competitors.

Britain's lightweight four, which had been reckoned one of the best medal prospects, may have been unlucky to strike a "stiff" head wind. For 500 metres they stayed with the leaders but in the race for the line they were left behind.

The lightweight eight, another medal prospect, started sluggishly, lying fifth and racing 300 metres - and this crew which raced over the longest Henley course, nearly 800 metres - moved up to third place at 1,000 metres and came home at 40 but from too far behind, taking the bronze medal.

The heavyweight coxless four lay second at 1,500 metres but could not match the finishing pace of Australia, Netherlands and East Germany, also finishing fourth.

In contrast, the women's lightweight coxless four seemed to do everything right. They stayed with the leaders as one must at this level of competition, went all out for the finish from the 1,500 metres mark, even looking possible for a medal. They just failed to catch Australia and were caught by China, missing the bronze placing by 0.14sec.

Britain's men's heavyweight eight also did everything strongly, fell back in the middle stages of the race, and failed to

RESULTS FROM TASMANIA

COXLESS PAIRS	
1. Redgrave, S. Pinsent, 6:57.82; 2. United States (J. Kellner, M. Jung), 7:01.82; 3. East Germany (J. Taga, V. Voinov), 7:04.82; 4. Romania (P. Pincov, B. Pincov), 7:08.82; 5. Soviet Union (J. Kellner, M. Jung), 7:12.82; 6. Australia (S. Redgrave, M. Pinsent), 7:16.82; 7. China (J. Taga, V. Voinov), 7:20.82; 8. Netherlands (P. Pincov, B. Pincov), 7:24.82; 9. East Germany (J. Taga, V. Voinov), 7:28.82; 10. Soviet Union (J. Kellner, M. Jung), 7:32.82; 11. United States (J. Kellner, M. Jung), 7:36.82; 12. Australia (S. Redgrave, M. Pinsent), 7:40.82; 13. China (J. Taga, V. Voinov), 7:44.82; 14. Netherlands (P. Pincov, B. Pincov), 7:48.82; 15. East Germany (J. Taga, V. Voinov), 7:52.82; 16. Soviet Union (J. Kellner, M. Jung), 7:56.82; 17. United States (J. Kellner, M. Jung), 8:00.82; 18. Australia (S. Redgrave, M. Pinsent), 8:04.82; 19. China (J. Taga, V. Voinov), 8:08.82; 20. Netherlands (P. Pincov, B. Pincov), 8:12.82; 21. East Germany (J. Taga, V. Voinov), 8:16.82; 22. 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All roads lead west for Desert Orchid faithful

For a first race that was seriously good performance," Kim Bailey said. "He is entered for the Punch Bowl Amateur Riders' Chase at Ascot but is straighter than I thought and the chances are he will probably go straight for the Hennessy."

Either way, Mr Frisk is expected to run at Doncaster in early December before having a break and returning to Sandown

for the Anthony Mildmay, Peter Cazalet Memorial Trophy, offered to another crack at the Victoria Cup. The 1500-metre race may be five months away but Von Casadek is the best jumper to come from the United States, according to Michael Dickkiss, a leading American show-jumper and a very serious challenger.

He would have won the Maryland Hunt Cup in April but for unshipping his horse in the field and won his second British race at Worcester on Saturday when defeating Over The Road and the 11-year-old, 16.1-hand, bay gelding, 18 and on 2in, is the son of an Irish horse's American owner and another owner who is now in the States.

Jennifer Knight, who is preparing the horse for the National Challenge, rarefies her charges unless they complete a series of moves. Von Casadek is described by Knight as "very impressive."

Out of luck Rare visit

th flock in offers view from afar

"It's good to be riding in France again. I remember the track and the excitement. I was there when I was an apprentice when I last rode with them."

Paisiote, Bleu marked himself out as a favorite to watch out for next year by winning the day's big race, the £57,492 Critérium de Saint-Cloud, in authoritative fashion. The 4-year-old, a Widyian finished fourth.

Jim Bolger's pair, Nordic

LESTER Pigott paid his first visit to Northern Ireland for 2 years on Saturday and although he was a Royal member, he was not Committed. Dancer and Love That Mac, both finished second, he had only a very remote view of the action. (Guthrie, Racing Correspondent writes).

Piggott's European Journeys take him to Rome on Sunday when he partners Mr Pinipus for William Hastings-Bass in the group three Premio Roma, Veccia.

lift the cup

Saturday, including a record six group winners at Falmington.

Probable favourite for the 24-runners handicap is Shuzou, who has been competing against the best in conditions races, while other leading fancies include the Sydesdon, the top weight, and last year's winner, Tawnific.

Surprise and Elementary, recorded victories in the divisional Majestic Plate by 12 and 15 lengths. The brought Bolger's score for the year on the Flat to 121, thereby eclipsing the previous record of Dermot Weld.

Piggott will be back in Ireland on Wednesday to ride for Vincent O'Brien at the Curragh. He will also ride for John Mearns Mackerson Gold Cup entry, The Other Hand, made a mistake three fences out in the Maddenstown Handicap Ch and was then putted up at being forced off the course in the final turn behind all-the-winner Larchmont.

[illegible][illegible]

TRAINERS: M Pipe, 18 winners from 66 runners, 27.3%; J Edwards, 16 from 78, 21.1%; Miss S Wilson, 7 from 38, 19.4%; R Peacock, 3 from 18, 18.8%; P Bailey, 4 from 30, 13.3%. (Only

[illegible]

JOCKEYS

	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	Lost
Pat Eddery	205	132	89	9	55-16
Lamarr	184	127	102	7	62-81
W. Carson	135	101	75	1	59-35
William	135	82	70	7	57-34
Al Rogers	127	117	114	17	58-69
W. Swinburn	120	100	107	10	57-38
Tr. Cochrane	116	95	94	0	54-33
A. McCune	90	99	91	11	59-78
W. Swinburn	88	77	77	1	54-33
D. McCune	81	61	65	9	50-33-34
K. Darby	80	81	71	18	154-00

© Clive Roberts's Sikeston, ridden by Michael Roberts, gained his fourth Italian group success in Rome yesterday with a resounding five-length win over Irgaim in the £34.30 group two Premio Ribot. Chris Wall's

1990

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Liverpool re-establish supremacy

By STUART JONES
FOOTBALL CORRESPONDENT

Tottenham Hotspur 1
Liverpool 3

LIVERPOOL yesterday illustrated that they have not only the strongest squad in the Football League but also the finest tacticians. A line-up excluding Peter Beardsley and Ray Houghton — which provoked astonishment when it was announced at White Hart Lane — proved to be perfect for the occasion.

There can be just one criticism of Kenny Dalglish. The Liverpool manager gambled on the fitness of John Barnes, who was offered only eight days to recover from a strained hamstring. Within a quarter of an hour the injury, which usually requires a fortnight to heal, had been aggravated.

Barnes could yet be ruled out of England's European championship qualifying tie in the Republic of Ireland next week, but his absence against Tottenham Hotspur was immaterial. His replacement, Beardsley, went on to play a significant part in a victory which, though initially un-

convincing, was by the end comprehensive.

In recovering instantly from the heavy loss inflicted by Manchester United in the Rumbelows Cup last week, Liverpool re-established their four-point lead over Arsenal, and dismantled Tottenham's unbeaten record. They also erased the memory of their last defeat in the League, at the same ground and also in front of the television cameras, eight months ago.

The Tottenham manager, though, was not lost in admiration. Terry Venables complained that Liverpool's first and third goals were illegitimate. "The referee said that Nicol was offside for the first one but he wasn't interfering with play. This has been going on for too long. Either a player is onside or offside. Bill Nicholson used to say that if you are not interfering with play, what are you doing on the pitch? If you look at that Beardsley was offside twice for the third goal and by a clear margin as well."

Venables has a point. A referee's interpretation as to whether a player is interfering tends to be arbitrary, un-

satisfactory and inevitably open to inconsistency. It did seem as though the Tottenham defence was momentarily transfixed when Rush put Liverpool ahead in the 39th minute. Tottenham played for a while which was never blown. Yet Liverpool's overall superiority was beyond dispute.

Tottenham, the heaviest scorers at home in the first division, never fully re-adjusted to Liverpool's formation. Most significant of all, Paul Gascoigne found himself imprisoned by David Burrows and, in an increasingly wild attempt to break out, he resorted to reckless tactics. Eventually it earned him a booking.

Gascoigne was also involved in the other three cautions to be issued. Nicol and McMahon fouled him, and Burrows, angered by one of his assaults, voiced his dissent. Rarely have Liverpool been guilty of such ill-discipline. "There was no malice," Dalglish said. "But it was a very competitive game."

A smell of cordite hung over a first half punctuated by free kicks and misplaced passes. Neither side controlled it, but Liverpool at least contained the threat posed by Linaker's speed.

Molby, an imperious figure amid the hectic activity in a crowded midfield, eased Liverpool clear of the stalemate. His impudent chip, after McMahon and Nicol had combined neatly on the right, released Rush. Bergson, who had failed to push up, and Thorstvedt hesitated and were punished by Rush's lob.

By the time the lively Walsh had been allowed to make an impact on the second half, Rush had completed a sparkling move built by Beardsley, Molby and Burrows to claim a second goal, his tenth of the season.

Tottenham responded almost immediately, Linaker tucking in the rebound after a Howells drive had struck a post, but Grobbelaar was not otherwise extended during his 500th appearance until the closing minute.

By then, Beardsley had added the controversial third through the assistance of Rush.

Arsenal still chasing, page 34



Putting on the shackles: McMahon ties up Gascoigne, giving the Spurs forward little room in which to manoeuvre

Incident prompts enquiry by RFU

By DAVID HANDS
RUGBY CORRESPONDENT

THE Rugby Football Union (RFU) is holding an internal investigation into the events preceding the dismissal at Twickenham on Saturday of Federico Mendez. The Argentine prop was sent off for punching Paul Ackford near the end of the game with England.

Mendez, aged 18, had endured a difficult afternoon against Jeff Probyn, the experienced England prop, and their confrontation came to a head in a scrum. The evidence of the BBC television replay was that Mendez, lying on the ground, was struck by Probyn's right foot. Mendez reached up and grabbed Probyn in the groin. Probyn responded by kicking Mendez on the head; and then Mendez stood up and hit out at Ackford.

A committee chaired by Denzil Lloyd (Wales) and including Albert Agar (England) and Federico Alvarez, the Argentine tour manager, met after the game, won by England 51-0. Their statement said: "Mr Mendez has been suspended from playing for four weeks. It was felt there was some provocation before the incident which the RFU has been asked to investigate."

Dudley Wood, the RFU secretary, said yesterday: "This is new ground for us. We will have to look at the film and see if there is anything we need to do about it. It's a very difficult area because the cameras don't necessarily see precisely what is going on and clearly the referee and touch judges didn't see it or presumably they would have done something about it."

The suspension means Mendez will miss the remainder of the tour.

Mendez was the second prop to be sent off by Colin Hawke, the New Zealand referee, within four days. Geoff Didier, of the Emerging Nations party, was sent off against England Students last Wednesday for punching and being banned for two matches.

Hugo Porta, the Pumas captain, said: "I told the referee that Mendez was kicked on the floor. It seems to me that he [Hawke] saw what Mendez did, not what was done to Mendez. If someone punches after receiving a kick, or being walked over, I don't know which is worse."

After watching the video of the incident last night, Probyn said: "The TV shows quite clearly that he hit me in the groin and I was reacting to that attack when I walked over him. He collapsed the scrum and while I was still bound by my colleagues I went over him. He punched me and it clearly shows that I stepped on him. The committee were asked to adjudicate only on Mendez's punch on Paul Ackford and I am asking how far you trace these things back? When you are forced around in a wheeling scrum and being assaulted in a very sensitive personal area you cannot guarantee to control other parts of your body."

Hawke's attention was drawn to the Ackford incident after an intervention by one of the two Scottish touch judges.

Ackford was assisted off, severely concussed, and will not play again for the mandatory three weeks. "I didn't see the punch coming," he said. Geoff Cooke, the England manager, described it as the sort of blow "that could do a fearful amount of damage". Ackford will miss the match on Saturday between Harlequins, his club, and Bath. It is likely that Will Carling will also miss that match because of an ankle injury.

Pakistan cricket, page 35

Resurgent England, page 31

MATCH FACTS

At White Hart Lane (3pm). Att: 35,003. Ref: G Courtney.

Home record v Liverpool: W 24, D 10, L 13.

HT: 0-1. TOTTENHAM 1 LIVERPOOL 3

Scorers: Linaker 50 Rush 38, 48, Beardsley 66

Cautions: Gascoigne 78 McMahon 30, Nicol 51, Burrows 68

Subs: Walsh, Thomas 45 Beardsley 17 (Barnes)

(Bergsson, Nayim)

Tottenham Liverpool

Shots (on target/total) 7 13 6 9

Corners (left/right) 2 5 2 2

Crosses (left/right) 12 13 3 3

Free kicks/penalties conceded 14 22

Cautions/sendings off 1 3

Offsides 1 5

Possession (gained/lost) 50 106 48 102

TOTTENHAM LIVERPOOL

Player Goal Attempts L R Fy On

Player Goal Attempts L R Fy On

Player Goal Attempts L R Fy On

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Bates has last laugh on Castle

By ANDREW LONGMORE
TENNIS CORRESPONDENT

JEREMY Bates won his third Prudential national singles title, beating Andrew Castle, the defending champion 6-3, 6-2 in 80 minutes at Telford yesterday. But he comfortably lost the propaganda war. While Bates was intent simply on gaining revenge for a 6-1, 6-0 humiliation by his old friend and rival, Castle, in the semi-finals last year, Castle had other things on his mind.

Aware that the final was being broadcast live on the BBC for the first time, he had armed himself with an anti-poll tax placard, which he propped up on his chair.

After the fifth game of the first set, Colin Hess, the tournament referee, asked him to remove the sign. Castle asked to see the rule he had breached, then threw the offending sign away and produced another which read rather less controversially:

"Hello, Mum, in Taunton". "It was just a little joke," said the number five seed afterwards. "It wasn't meant to be taken too seriously. I just thought I ought to do something. Actually, I've paid my poll tax."

The timing of the protest might have taken Bates by surprise, but not the tone or eccentricity of it. "He told me as we were going down the court that he had a few placards. That's Andrew all over. He calls me a fascist and I call him a raging socialist. It's a joke we share on the circuit."

Bates, however, was more interested in wild cards than placards as the national champion automatically wins a place in the main draw at Wembley this week. He had also bet his occasional coach, Alan Jones, £10 that he would not mean either at himself, the referee, linesmen or anyone else and he never looked like losing the bet.

He only dropped his serve once and was quick to pounce on Castle's serve, which he broke crucially in the seventh game of the first set when Castle obligingly failed to put away a straightforward backhand volley and five times altogether. A double fault and another errant backhand volley cost Castle the first break in the second set and, hampered by a stomach muscle injury which had to be treated between sets, there was no way back thereafter.

Bates's reward is a cheque

for £9,600, a first round match against Ramesh Krishnan in the Diet Pepsi Indoor Challenge at Wembley, which begins tonight with Pete Sampras, the US Open champion, in action, and a chance to push himself back into the top 100 in the world before the end of the year.

But the depressing thought at the end of Prudential's sponsorship of the national championships and an 18-year investment of more than £5m pounds is that the cast of British tennis remains much the same for another year.

Castle and Bates later set aside their political and sporting differences to retain their doubles title, beating Hand and Chris Wilkinson 6-1, 6-2. To cap a mixed day for Castle, his poll tax protest was broadcast and he might be called to account for his actions by the Lawn Tennis Association. However, his runners-up cheque for £4,800 will pay his poll tax in Merton for just over 17 years.

RESULTS: Men's singles: A. Castle (Sevens) vs J. Bates (Hampshire and Kent), 6-3, 6-2; J. Bates (Sevens) vs A. Castle (Sevens), 6-3, 6-2. Men's doubles: J. Bates (Sevens) and A. Castle (Sevens) vs J. Bates (Sevens) and A. Castle (Sevens), 6-1, 6-2. Women's singles: J. Bates (Sevens) vs J. Bates (Sevens), 6-1, 6-2. Women's doubles: J. Bates (Sevens) and A. Castle (Sevens) vs J. Bates (Sevens) and A. Castle (Sevens), 6-1, 6-2. Mixed doubles: J. Bates (Sevens) and A. Castle (Sevens) vs J. Bates (Sevens) and A. Castle (Sevens), 6-1, 6-2.

Sevens: J. Bates (Sevens) vs J. Bates (Sevens), 6-1, 6-2.

Sevens: J. Bates (Sevens) vs J. Bates (Sevens), 6-1, 6-2.

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Sevens: J. Bates (Sevens) vs J. Bates (Sevens), 6-1, 6-2.

Marsh returns to form with a record-breaking century

PERTH (Agencies) — Geoff Marsh, the Australian vice-captain, returned to form yesterday by hitting 151 for Western Australia on the third day of their four-day match against England. At the close Western Australia were 308 for four, a lead of 351.

Marsh, who had scored only 27 runs in three previous innings against the touring team, hit 21 fours in his 250-ball innings. The Australian opener was finally bowled by Chris Lewis, after a stay of 333 minutes, during which he scored the highest individual score by a Western Australian against an England touring side.

Marsh scored a century in the corresponding fixture four years ago and has been a thorn in their side ever since. But these days Marsh, the wheat farmer from Wandering, is playing more shots and his 155 included 21 fours — eight of which helped him to race

from 50 to 100 in only 39 deliveries.

Marsh's aggression quickly cut short a spell of leg spin from Mike Atherton and he was equally severe on the seam bowler, Chris Lewis, who conceded 70 runs from 18 poor overs.

Lewis eventually bowled Marsh after the opener had sailed past his own Western Australian individual record against England — 124 in 1986. Micky Stewart, the England manager, said: "Chris was better than in the first innings but still nowhere near what we want him to be."

Mike Veletta, a member of the triumphant 1989 Australian party in England, scored 77 in a first-wicket stand of 195 before he edged a ball from Angus Fraser that left him and was caught behind by Jack Russell. The partnership was the highest for any wicket by Western Australia against England.

England are confident that Allan Lamb will play a full part in the Ashes tour, despite a painful eye condition which will require surgery before the start of next season.

"Allan has got eye ulcers," the physiotherapist, Laurie Brown, said. "He's had them ever since I've known him but the bright light out here is causing an unpleasant, stinging sensation in both eyes." Lamb plans to have the ulcers removed by laser surgery when the tour ends.

Pakistan cricket, page 35

Resurgent England, page 31

SCOREBOARD FROM PERTH

WESTERN AUSTRALIA: First Innings 288	
10 M Marsh 151	K H MacLennan 65
11 M Marsh 151	K H MacLennan 65
12 M Marsh 151	K H MacLennan 65
13 M Marsh 151	K H MacLennan 65
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46 M Marsh 151	K H MacLennan 65
47 M Marsh 151	K H MacLennan 65
48 M Marsh 151	K H MacLennan 65
49 M Marsh 151	K H MacLennan 65
50 M Marsh 151	K H MacLennan 65
51 M Marsh 151	K H MacLennan 65
52 M Marsh 151	K H MacLennan 65
53 M Marsh 151	K H MacLennan 65
54 M Marsh 151	K H MacLennan